

THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY

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BEING A JOURNAL OF THE YEAR 1936

*Including the Death and Funeral of King George V
The brief Reign of King Edward VIII
The Accession of King George VI
With Many Other Memorable Events
On Land, Sea, and in the Air
At Home and Abroad*

By G. B. HARRISON

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PREFACE

Some years ago I compiled an *Elizabethan Journal* for the last twelve years of the reign of Queen Elizabeth; and ever since I have felt that a journal of our own times, of those events which happened the day before yesterday, might be an interesting comment on the affairs of to-day. The death of King George the Fifth at the beginning of 1936 seemed to mark the beginning of a new era, and an appropriate starting-place for such a journal. To reconstruct the annals of the past one must search wide: for the annals of 1936 I preferred rather to rely on one source which is universally accepted as the best record of current events than to snip from here and there. I have, therefore, based this journal on *The Times*, and I would express my deep gratitude to the management of *The Times* for so generously allowing me full access to their files. For the selection and use of this valuable material I am solely responsible.

G. B. HARRISON

THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY

Wednesday 1 January

THE NEW YEAR AT ST. PAUL'S

Two hours before midnight a great crowd began to gather by the Cathedral, which was itself in darkness, while, above, the Golden Cross alone was illuminated in the sky. At 11 o'clock community singing began, Canon Sheppard directing, and the crowd sang "Loch Lomond," "Pack up your Troubles," and other old songs, to the alarm and indignation of the pigeons and starlings, who set up a chattering and crying as at roosting-time. From songs they passed to hymns, and towards midnight the service from within was relayed by loud-speaker. When the clock had ceased striking, all sang "Auld Lang Syne." A more seemly beginning to the year than of late years, but completely blocking the traffic.

ABYSSINIA

The news from Abyssinia is that the Italians have bombed and destroyed the Swedish Red Cross.

AN AIR-LINER WRECKED

The Imperial Airways air-liner *City of Khartoum* crashed into the sea a mile from Alexandria, and all on board except the pilot were killed. In all twelve died.

NUREMBERG SERVANT LAWS

Under the Nuremberg Laws which come into force to-day, "Aryan" women and girls under the age of forty-five are prohibited from taking employment in Jewish households. According to some estimates, as many as 25,000 in Berlin alone are thus thrown out of work, for many of whom there is no employment.

Thursday 2

THE BOMBING OF THE SWEDISH RED CROSS

Full accounts of the bombardment of the Swedish Red Cross have now come through and show that it was deliberate. At 7 a.m. on Sunday, 29 December, twelve Italian aeroplanes flew over the forces of Ras Desta and dropped leaflets. A quarter of an hour later aeroplanes at the height of 1,000 feet passed over the Swedish Red Cross unit. At the time the personnel were tending the wounded. The aeroplanes then began an intense bombardment. One of the first bombs fell on the operation-tent, where Dr. Hylander, head of the unit, was wounded, together with his Swedish assistant. Two

2-3 January

Ethiopians whom they were attending were killed at their side. Machine guns were then fired on the unit. Twenty-eight Ethiopians were killed and 50 others injured. Two ambulance lorries were blown to pieces and surgical instruments and medical supplies destroyed.

The Italians admit and justify the bombardment. "During the last few days," they say, "our air force in Somaliland has carried out a bombardment of the enemy lines as an act of reprisal, after it had been ascertained that Sub-Lieutenant Pilot Minniti Tito, having fallen a prisoner, had been killed and beheaded. With the bombs was thrown down a message which said: 'You have killed one of our airmen after he had been taken prisoner, cutting off his head, against the laws of humanity and the international laws under which prisoners are sacred and are respected. You shall have in exchange what you have deserved.' During the bombardment a bomb fell on a tent of the Swedish Red Cross encampment. It appears that two Swedes have been wounded. The Abyssinians killed and wounded by the bombardment are very numerous."

The Italian Press declare that the general laws of the Red Cross have been violated wholesale by the Abyssinians. The Red Cross institutions are supposed to be kept at a certain distance from the combatants, and if this distance is not observed airmen cannot be responsible for casualties. Moreover the Abyssinians have notoriously abused the Red Cross.

THE FLOODS

The floods in the Thames Valley grow worse and worse, and at London the river is so full at high tide that H.M.S. *President* appears to be floating upon the roadway.

EXAMINATIONS EXAMINED

There is much excitement among academic persons at the recent Report on Examinations, for experienced examiners in English, submitting in turn to examination, are found not only to give widely differing marks amongst themselves, but even to give contrary results on re-marking the same paper after an interval. Some even call in question the value of the School Certificate as a reliable test of ability.

Friday 3

A NEW SHAW PLAY

A new play by Bernard Shaw called *The Millionairess* was given a first showing in Vienna.

4-5 January

Saturday 4

A MURDER IN ARGYLLSHIRE

William Young, a farmer living about ten miles from Campbeltown, being alone with his wife in the house, went to bed on Friday night. About 1.30 in the morning Mrs. Young went downstairs to see that the fire was still alight for the return of her son from a dance. As she went back to her bedroom her husband left the room. He was just outside when she heard two shots, and found him lying on the floor with a wound in his chest. She rushed downstairs, and was crossing the kitchen to get out of the house when she saw the barrel of a shotgun protruding from a door in the passage, from which a shot was fired at her. Having at last recovered from her fright, she went out by a back way through the darkness to a gamekeeper's house about a quarter of a mile away, where she called for help. In the meanwhile her son had returned and found the lights on in several rooms and his father lying dead on the staircase.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

England beat New Zealand by 13 points to nil at Twickenham, before a huge crowd, including the Prince of Wales. This is the first time that any visiting team of the All-Blacks has been defeated.

Sunday 5

THE REICHSTAG TRIAL

The Executive Committee of the Comintern have degraded Torgler, Popoff, and Taneff, who were tried for setting fire to the Reichstag, for unworthy behaviour during the trial. They confessed that they had lost courage and acted in a shameful and cowardly manner. The Committee, however, has shown clemency, degrading them merely to rank-and-file membership of the Bulgarian Communist Party and forbidding them to occupy any responsible posts. Dimitroff, who distinguished himself by conspicuous bravado, has been rewarded with the post of Secretary-General of the Executive Committee. Taneff, indeed, tried to commit suicide in prison, but such bourgeois reaction to adversity is denounced as a romantically weak gesture, unbecoming to a revolutionary Bolshevik.

MISS ISHBEL MACDONALD'S INN

Miss Ishbel MacDonald has acquired the Plow Inn at Speen, near Aylesbury. When she arrived at the Plow yesterday, many motor-cars were already there and the room was crowded to the doors. To-day there was an even greater crowd, and so

5-7 January

many customers taking meals that Miss MacDonald had to apologise for lack of room. Amongst the visitors was Mr. R. G. Bingham, the American Ambassador.

Monday 6

SHIRTS IN EGYPT

Young Wafdists in Egypt are to be enrolled in quasi-military formations. Their uniform is a blue shirt with grey trousers and a tarbush, and their salute is a smart slap on the chest with the right hand.

THE NAVAL CONFERENCE

The Naval Conference met again after the Christmas holidays, when the British proposed that each Power should announce its intended reconstruction for six years ahead, which it would undertake not to exceed. This proposal was criticised by the French, Italian, and Japanese delegations, and the Conference was adjourned.

Tuesday 7

SPAIN

In Spain the Cortes has been dissolved and a General Election called for 16 February, with a second vote on 1 March, and a first sitting of the new Parliament convoked for 16 March. The censorship will be suppressed and constitutional guarantees re-established forthwith. This unexpected decision of the Government and President has caused great excitement. Some deputies loudly declare that the President exceeds his powers and commits a *coup d'état*.

THE SCOTTISH FARM MURDER

The pathologists, finger-print experts, and gun experts are busy in the Campbeltown murder. The nurse, who attended the widow after she reached the village for assistance, said that outside the house in which Mrs. Young was given shelter she heard shuffling noises in the wood as if someone was walking backwards and forwards. It is suggested that the murderer may have followed Mrs. Young from the farmhouse to the village.

AN HEIRESS SUES HER MOTHER

Miss Ann Cooper Hewitt, whose late father was one of the wealthiest men in the United States, has filed a suit against her mother, Mrs. Hewitt McCarter, for 500,000 dollars, alleging that her mother caused her to undergo an operation for sterilisation under the pretext that she was being operated on for appendicitis. The surgeons concerned admit that the

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operation was performed, but say that it was necessary because Miss Hewitt was feeble-minded and that it is legal in California to perform the operation in such circumstances. The psychiatrist who pronounced Miss Hewitt mentally deficient is also cited.

Wednesday 8

THE NAVAL TALKS

The Committee of the Naval Conference again met to-day, but after criticisms of the Italian and French plans by Admiral Nagano of Japan the Conference was adjourned.

DISPUTE IN THE MINING INDUSTRY

Colliery owners and mine-workers met for the first time to discuss new wages. The offers made by the owners do not satisfy the miners, who threaten a strike.

CHINA

There have been several incidents in North China. A party of soldiers guarding one of the east gates of Peking exchanged shots with some Japanese soldiers who arrived after the gates had been closed for the night. Each party blames the other.

AMERICAN MONEY

A report of the Treasury says that 18,000 persons received salaries exceeding 15,000 dollars in 1934. Mr. W. R. Hearst heads the list, with a salary of 500,000 dollars (£100,000). Miss Mae West received 339,166 dollars, Mr. Bing Crosby 193,000 dollars, whilst Mr. Walt Disney's salary for Mickey Mouse was 51,000 dollars.

LORD DE CLIFFORD ACQUITTED

Lord de Clifford was acquitted at the Central Criminal Court on a charge of driving a motor-vehicle in a manner dangerous to the public. Last August he was ceremoniously indicted for manslaughter by the Peers in the House of Lords, when the Judges declared that there was no evidence to support the indictment, so that he was immediately acquitted. Thus the dignity of the law is displayed, but at the expense of the public.

A GREAT GALE

A great gale broke over Wales, so that the Menai Bridge was closed. Thence it swept across the country, causing great damage. In the Mersey the steamer *Bradda* sank. Many ships

7-8 January

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are put out of action and in danger, houses and trees blown down, and the banks of the Severn broken by sudden flood.

Friday 10

ELECTIONS IN SPAIN

Two days since re-establishment of public liberties in Spain the elections are already taking on the appearance of civil war, members of all parties threatening violence to their opponents.

ABYSSINIA

The Abyssinians claim to have won a victory at Dessie and to have captured six tanks and nine machine guns from the Italians.

THE ARGYLLSHIRE MURDER

The widow of the Scottish farmer who was shot on his farm at Crockenrioch last Saturday was arrested to-night, charged with his murder.

Saturday 11

THE NAVAL CONFERENCE

No agreement has yet been reached in the Naval Conference, for Admiral Nagano declares that he will not continue the discussion until his own proposal for a common upper limit has been considered. To which the American delegation replied that it has already taken up too much time of the Conference.

Sunday 12

PROSPERITY IN SWEDEN

Sweden is so prosperous that the new Budget proposes a cut of 12 per cent in the rate of income-tax and full returns out of surplus on all moneys borrowed for extraordinary and non-productive crisis expenditure.

Monday 13

SPAIN

In Madrid the price of Government stock has fallen, though the Prime Minister denied any cause for anxiety. He hoped that passions would subside gradually. He was confident, and his Government was confident, that in the next few months Spain would learn the art of democratic self-government. "This country," said he, "has the makings of a great democracy. Its desire is to become one, and the Government will not allow minorities that have got out of hand to disturb national life in the exercise of democracy."

13-14 *January*

MR. KIPLING ILL

Rudyard Kipling was taken ill suddenly in the night and carried to the Middlesex Hospital, where an urgent operation was performed. He is gravely ill.

A WHOLE FAMILY BURNT AT TYLDESLEY

At Tyldesley, Lancashire, a mother and her eight children were burnt to death within half an hour in their home, a four-roomed cottage, before the firemen or police could do anything to save them. Only the husband escaped, through an upper window.

AN IMPETUOUS COUNSEL

A lawyer named Keogh, who was conducting his own case in an action before the Chicago Circuit Court, disagreed with a ruling by the judge. He drew a pistol, killed the opposing counsel, and then tried to kill the judge, who flung himself on the floor. One of the bullets fired by Keogh lodged in the back of the judicial chair. Keogh was then knocked down by another lawyer, disarmed, and arrested.

Tuesday 14

THE ABBEY EFFIGIES

The last of the eleven wax figures which are kept in the Islip Chantry in Westminster Abbey have now been cleaned by the experts of the Victoria and Albert Museum. The cleaning has shown that the figures were more genuine than was supposed. Only the reputation of Queen Elizabeth is ruined. None of her is older than 1760, and the face was apparently modelled from the effigy on her tomb. Most of the others were made either from life or from death-masks, and are clothed in their original clothing. The effigy of King Charles II is clad in his own Garter robes, which are the oldest surviving.

THE NAVAL CONFERENCE

The Naval Conference which was to have met to-day was postponed at the request of the Japanese delegation, who wish for fuller instructions from their Government.

THE ABYSSINIAN VICTORY

Italian prisoners brought to Dessie describe the Italian reverses. They say that tanks and infantry were ordered to advance, supported by aeroplanes, but, as fighting developed into a hand-to-hand struggle, bombing was impossible. The tanks were only able to advance a mile or so during the day.

14-15 January

At night they were operating in a broad valley covered with thorn-bush and masses of rock intercepted by deep fissures, but finally, said the prisoners, there was a jam of tanks ahead after the driver of the leading tank had been killed. Other tanks slipped into the fissures, some bursting into flames. They saw the occupants emerging and attempting to return the Ethiopian fire, but they fell almost immediately. The infantry advancing level with the tanks were also caught, and fully half the force of 1,600 presumably killed.

The Swedish Government have made a strong protest to the Italian Government against the bombardment of the Swedish Red Cross unit.

THE EFFECT OF SANCTIONS

Sanctions have given new life to the gondolas in Venice. Oil must be saved, particularly in Venice, where motor-launches consume more than motor-cars. The service of the *vaporetti*, too, has been reduced, and everywhere old gondolas are coming out again.

Wednesday 15

THE NAVAL CONFERENCE

Japan will withdraw from the Naval Conference. Admiral Nagano, in a letter to Lord Monsell, the Chairman of the First Committee, explains that since the Japanese proposal for a common upper limit cannot gain the support of the other Powers, his delegation can no longer take part in the Conference. "We cannot agree," say the Japanese, "to the proposals submitted by the other delegations, as they do not meet with our fundamental thesis of liquidating the position of inferiority under the existing treaties, and of providing the minimum forces required for the safety of national defence." Each of the other delegations in turn declare that they are unable to accept the Japanese proposal. Lord Monsell said that a common upper limit would actually encourage a country to build up its naval strength to equality with its neighbours. Mr. Dulanty, for the Irish Free State, declared that if the Conference were to reach agreement giving all Powers the right to build up to a fixed limit, the Irish Free State, as a separate high contracting party, would possess that right in common with all other parties, nor would he consent to any agreement in which that position is not fully recognised.

ABYSSINIA

General Graziani is moving against the forces of Ras Desta. The Abyssinians protest that the Italians are using gas bombs on open towns and villages to terrorise civilians.

15 *January*

AN AMERICAN AIR DISASTER

A Douglas two-engined machine, bound from New York to Fort Worth, Texas, fell into a swamp near Goodwin, Arkansas. All on board—two pilots and fifteen passengers—were killed. The company cannot account for the disaster, which occurred in excellent flying weather. The petrol tank was full, but the pilot, evidently foreseeing a crash, had cut off the supply, thus preventing a fire, and had warned the passengers to put on safety-belts.

AN EXPRESS TRAIN WRECKED

The 9 p.m. mail train from Penzance to Paddington was wrecked after passing Swindon station and two were killed and twenty-six injured. The accident was caused by some trucks and the guard's van which had become detached from an earlier goods train. The express was then travelling at over sixty miles an hour, and the driver saw his danger too late to stop the train. The engine was thrown off the track on to its side. The first two coaches, which were made of wood, were crushed; the third, which was of steel, was undamaged.

THE STAVISKY CASE

The Stavisky trial, in which twenty accused persons are represented by forty counsel, and the dossier contains over 35,000 documents, is nearing its end. The trial began on 4 November. The questions to be put to the jury, to each of which they must give an answer, number 1,956. As they must not leave their room during the deliberation, twelve beds have been installed for them, with six more beds for supplementary jurymen. So far the problem of food has not been solved. The jury have made arrangements for food and drink to be brought to them, but, according to the regulations, its cost should be deducted from their allowance, and to this they will not agree.

DEATH OF THE "CADMORE HERMIT"

The "Cadmore Hermit," a strange figure with waist-long hair and pilgrim's staff, died yesterday in the little hut of boughs deep in a Buckinghamshire beech wood which had been his home for nearly twenty years. A villager stated last night that the man's name was Jack Butler, and that he was born at Cadmore End. He was brought up by his grandmother, and went to school at Bledlow, where he had a good education. For years he earned his living tying up bundles of firewood, but he had not worked for the last thirty years. He built his house of

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boughts in the Leygrove Wood on Lord Parmoor's estate about twenty years ago, and had lived there ever since. Persons used to come from a long way to see him, but he never talked to strangers, and seldom to the few persons who used to take him coal and provisions. Sometimes he would say that he was not as other men, and that he would never die. He called himself a prophet, and one of his prophecies was: "The time will come when men will eat grass." He wrote a great deal, but it was not known what happened to his writings. He was a tall figure, bent with age. His hair, twisted into long ringlets, fell almost to his waist.

DANGEROUS EMULATION

A conjurer performing before the Somerset Light Infantry depot at Taunton put a safety-razor blade in his mouth in three separate parts and, after drinking a quantity of water, produced the blade united. Thereupon a recruit endeavoured to emulate this feat and swallowed all three parts of the razor-blade. Eventually they were located by X-ray and removed without a surgical operation. The recruit has now returned to his duties, none the worse for the adventure, but wiser.

DR. EINSTEIN

Dr. Albert Einstein, the physicist, has taken out his first papers for American citizenship. He says that he will never return to Germany whilst Nazism continues its repressive rule there.

Thursday 16

ABYSSINIA: AN ITALIAN VICTORY

After four days General Graziani is entirely victorious over the troops of Ras Desta.

BRUNO HAUPTMANN

Bruno Hauptmann, who was to have been executed to-day for the murder of the Lindbergh baby, has been reprieved for yet another thirty days by Mr. Hoffmann, the Governor of New Jersey. Some of the London news-theatres are now showing a film of Hauptmann reading from behind an iron grille a statement protesting his innocence, followed by a picture of Mrs. Hauptmann, with a small child crawling over her, describing her husband's life in prison.

HEAVY SNOWFALL

There was a heavy fall of snow over northern and southern England.

17 January

Friday 17

LORD BEATTY

Admiral of the Fleet Lord Beatty, on reaching the age-limit of sixty-five, retires from the Navy, being the last officer on the active list of those who held flag rank during the Great War.

MR. EDEN'S REVIEW

Mr. Eden, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, speaking at Warwick, reviewed the events of the last year and restated the aims of British policy in the search for collective security. Aggression, he said, ought not to be allowed to succeed, and the members of the League acting together should be so strong and so united that they may bring it home to any aggressor now, or in the future, that peaceful negotiation and not aggression is not merely the best, but the only successful, way of removing discontent. We must go forward in such a way as to make sure that other nations at Geneva are with us in deed as well as in word, and that we and they together, in pursuing a policy of peace, are taking all the measures necessary to strengthen ourselves so that peace may be secured. Our policy is directed against no individual or nation as such, but as a member of the League we are bound to be opposed to any violation of that covenant to which we have put our name. We shall always be found arrayed on the side of the collective system against any Government or people who seek by a return to power-politics to break up the peace which by that system we are seeking to create.

"DISCOVERY II"

News has reached London that the research ship *Discovery II* has rescued Mr. Lincoln Ellsworth, the American explorer, and Mr. Herbert Hollick-Kenyon, his British pilot, who have been missing in the Antarctic since 24 November, when they started to fly across the South Pole.

THE STAVISKY CASE

The trial of the alleged accomplices of Stavisky the swindler has ended with the acquittal of ten persons and the conviction of the remaining nine. Gustave Tissier, the former director of the Crédit Municipal at Bayonne, receives seven years' hard labour for forgery and receiving without extenuating circumstances. The others are variously sentenced and all fined 100 francs (£1 6s. 8d.). This sum, under existing regulations, is automatically multiplied by seven. Madame Stavisky and Albert Dubarry, former editor of *La Volonté*, are acquitted.

17-18 January

Joseph Garat, having already spent over two years in prison, is to be released immediately.

Thus, but for the question of appeals, has come the judicial finish of a scandal which cost the investor over £3,000,000, provoked the bloody riots of February 1934, threatened the nation with civil war, and poisoned the politic and political atmosphere of France for many months.

Stavisky had during the years 1926 to 1933 organised a series of frauds as grand in scale as they were simple in method. Gaining control of the municipal pawnbroking establishments, first of Orleans, and then of Bayonne, with the help of his accomplices, he issued municipal bonds for large sums, making out greatly reduced amounts on the counterfoils, and hawked them all over the country. Banks, insurance companies, and private investors all took the bait until the inevitable crash came.

STUDENTS' STRIKE IN PARIS

The students of the University of Paris announce their intention of going on strike as a protest against the continued retention in the Faculty of Law of Professor Gaston Jèze, who has earned their displeasure by his skilful advocacy of the Ethiopian cause. The trouble began eight days ago, when the law students created such an uproar that M. Jèze was unable to give a lecture. There were some scuffles to-day between pickets of students posted at the Faculty of Law and a strong force of police on duty. Two policemen were slightly injured.

Saturday 18

ILLNESS OF THE KING

The King is suffering from bronchial catarrh. Late last night a bulletin was issued from Sandringham: "The bronchial catarrh from which His Majesty the King is suffering is not severe, but there have appeared signs of cardiac weakness which must be regarded with some disquiet."

DEATH OF RUDYARD KIPLING

Rudyard Kipling died at 12.10 this morning in the Middlesex Hospital. He is the likeliest of all English writers of our time to be deemed great by posterity, though among the younger kind of critic (especially those who have not read him) he is lightly condemned for believing in the British Empire.

ABYSSINIA: THE ITALIAN VICTORY

Marshal Badoglio telegraphs: "The battle of the Gahale Dorya, begun on 12 January by General Graziani, has ended in

complete victory. The enemy has been defeated and is everywhere in flight. The last resistance of the Abyssinian rearguard troops has been crushed along the whole front, and Ras Desta's forces are scattering in rout along the caravan tracks leading to the north-west. By yesterday evening our motor-lorry trains had in some sectors advanced 120 kilometres from their starting-point. The pursuit is continuing, and the Abyssinian troops are no longer putting up any serious resistance. The perfect co-operation between infantry, armoured cars, artillery, and Air Force has resulted in very heavy enemy losses. Up till yesterday it was established that there were 4,000 killed. In the earlier days of the action many prisoners were taken. A large quantity of rifles, machine guns, and some field guns have been captured. The losses among Italian Regulars are very light. The bravery shown by the Italians and native troops and by the Somali Dubats has been above all praise."

THE KING'S ILLNESS

Three bulletins were issued to-day. At 10.15 a.m.: "The anxiety expressed in the bulletin of last night persists." At 3.30 p.m.: "His Majesty the King has had some hours of restful sleep. The cardiac weakness and the embarrassment of the circulation have slightly increased and give cause for anxiety." At 10 p.m.: "There is no change to report since the last bulletin was issued."

Sunday 19

THE ILLNESS OF THE KING

This morning's bulletin declares that, in spite of a restless night, the King has maintained strength. In the evening it is announced that "His Majesty the King has passed a quiet day. There is no change in His Majesty's condition."

Towards evening crowds began to gather outside Buckingham Palace to await and read the bulletins.

SIX RAILWAYMEN KILLED

Six platelayers were killed and six seriously injured in the early morning about four miles north of Grantham station, when two light engines ran into the rear brake van of a ballast train in which they were travelling.

Monday 20

THE DEATH OF KING GEORGE

At 10.45 this morning a bulletin of the King's illness read: "The King has had a more restful night. There is no substantial change to record in His Majesty's condition." In the

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morning a Council was held at Sandringham, and Counsellors of State were appointed to exercise the King's function. They were Queen Mary, the Prince of Wales, the Dukes of York, Gloucester, and Kent. At 5.30 a further bulletin was published: "The condition of His Majesty the King shows diminishing strength." Four hours later it was announced: "The King's life is moving peacefully towards its close." Hereupon the B.B.C. ceased from broadcasting, except that the message was repeated each quarter of an hour till shortly after midnight, when it was announced that "Death came peacefully to the King at 11.55 p.m. to-night in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, the Princess Royal, and the Duke and Duchess of Kent."

Tuesday 21

THE NEW KING

The new King arrived in London from Sandringham by air with the Duke of York, and in the afternoon attended the special meeting of the Privy Council summoned to proclaim his accession. To this Council, by ancient custom, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen and high officials of the City of London are summoned. After the proclamation of the new King had been read by Sir Maurice Hankey, Clerk of the Council, all members of the Council present signed and took the Oath of Allegiance to King Edward the Eighth. Then the King entered the Council Chamber and said:

"When my father stood here twenty-six years ago he declared that one of the objects of his life would be to uphold constitutional government. In this I am determined to follow in my father's footsteps and to work as he did throughout his life for the happiness and welfare of all classes of my subjects.

"I place my reliance upon the loyalty and affection of my peoples throughout the Empire, and upon the wisdom of their Parliaments, to support me in this heavy task, and I pray that God will guide me to perform it."

Then he made the Accession Declaration and took the Oath relating to the Security of the Church of Scotland.

THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Parliament, which had been adjourned to 4 February, met to-night to take the Oath of Allegiance to the new King. In the House of Lords there was but one throne instead of two, and after prayers the Lord Chancellor first took the Oath of Allegiance in these terms: "I swear by Almighty God that I will

bear true and faithful allegiance to His Majesty King Edward, his heirs and successors according to law." He then signed the Roll, and the rest of the Lords in order likewise took the oath and subscribed. Similarly in the House of Commons the Speaker first took the oath and the other members in turn were sworn.

In the evening the Prime Minister broadcast a message to the nation. "To famous men," he said, "all the earth is a sepulchre. It is less than a month ago that the voice now silent was heard around the world, a King addressing his subjects, a father seated with his family, speaking to his people, members of his wider family, words of wisdom, courage, and deep human sympathy. And it is as members of a family that we are mourning him to-day. There must be millions who feel as I do: that a wise and loving friend and counsellor has been taken from us, and for long the world will seem a poorer and a colder place without him, and the tones of that well-known voice are echoing in our ears to-day as our thoughts turn to the widowed Queen and to the bereaved family."

Then he went on to speak of the Jubilee of last year, and how the King had accepted that tribute with profound emotion. He spoke, too, of the King's last moments. "Though much," said Mr. Baldwin, "and most indeed, of what passes near the end is sacred, and we none of us have the desire or right to inquire into what happened at those times, yet I think I may tell you this. The King was having brief intervals of consciousness, and each time he became conscious it was some kind inquiry or kind observation of someone, some words of gratitude for kindness shown. But he did say to his secretary when he sent for him: 'How is the Empire?' An unusual phrase in that form, and the secretary said: 'All is well, sir, with the Empire,' and the King gave him a smile and relapsed once more into unconsciousness."

Mr. Baldwin concluded with some words about the new King. "We can best honour the noble memory of King George by gathering round and sustaining the young King whom for so long we have delighted to know as the Prince of Wales. All eyes are upon him as he advances to his father's place, and, while he is no stranger to public duty, he is now summoned to face responsibilities more onerous, more exacting, more continuous, than any he has hitherto been asked to discharge.

"The young King," he ended, "knows the confidence we all repose in him. He knows that he commands not only the

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allegiance, he knows that the understanding, the affection, and the prayers of the countless multitudes of his subjects are with him at this hour. May God guide him aright, and God Save the King."

KING GEORGE

In the evening King George's body was conveyed from Sandringham House to the church in Sandringham Park.

AN AGREEMENT SIGNED IN BUENOS AIRES

An agreement between Bolivia and Paraguay formally ending the long and bloody Chaco war was signed to-day. All prisoners of war will be returned, the transfer beginning thirty days after the ratification of the agreement by both countries. Bolivia will pay Paraguay 2,400,000 Argentine pesos (£132,231) within thirty days of the ratification, to reimburse money spent on the maintenance of prisoners. Diplomatic relations between the two countries are to be resumed forthwith.

JAPAN'S AIMS

Mr. Hirota, the Japanese Foreign Minister, gave an important review of Japanese foreign policy before the Diet. Agreement with China, he said, could be reached only on three conditions: China must abandon once and for all her policy of playing one foreign nation against another; must respect the *de facto* existence of Manchuria; and must act in concert with Japan in taking effective measures to check the Sovietisation of China's northern frontier.

THE SCOTTSBORO CASE

The first of the re-trials of the negroes accused of assaulting two white women in 1931 began yesterday, when Heywood Patterson faced his fourth trial on this charge at Decatur, Alabama. Of the 100 talesmen present, of whom a jury was to be selected, twelve were negroes, but in the end all the negroes were eliminated and a white jury chosen. After three days Patterson was again found guilty and sentenced to seventy-five years' imprisonment.

Wednesday 22

THE FRENCH CABINET FALLS

M. Laval, having received the resignation of M. Herriot and three other Radical Ministers, went to the Elysée and placed the collective resignation of the Cabinet in the hands of the President.

THE ACCESSION OF KING EDWARD VIII

The ancient ceremonies of proclaiming the King were to-day carried out in London at St. James's Palace, Charing Cross, and the Royal Exchange. At 10 in the morning the Officers of Arms came slowly to the balcony of St. James's Palace. The trumpeters sounded a double fanfare, troops presented arms, and, while the salute was slowly fired from the guns in St. James's Park, Sir Gerald Wollaston, Garter King of Arms, read the Proclamation. The trumpeters sounded another fanfare, and the band of the Guards played the National Anthem. Then the heralds, taking to the royal carriages, moved off to Charing Cross escorted by Royal Horse Guards through streets lined with soldiers. At Temple Bar the customary challenge was given before the King's Officers of Arms were admitted.

*Thursday 23*KING GEORGE'S BODY BROUGHT
FROM SANDRINGHAM

This morning the body of King George was brought from Sandringham to London. The King, his three brothers, and Lord Harewood walked to the church from Sandringham House by the most direct path. Queen Mary, with the Royal ladies, all heavily veiled, drove there by way of the old Norwich Gates in two carriages. The men waiting outside the ivy-crowned lych-gate all bared their heads as the Royal mourners arrived and entered. The King and Queen Mary sat beside each other in the pew on the south side of the chancel. The service was conducted by the Bishop of Norwich and the rector, the Rev. A. R. Fuller. The choir-boys sang the twenty-third psalm; the one hymn was "Peace, Perfect Peace." The simple service was soon over. Then Grenadier Guardsmen, bareheaded, lifted the coffin and carried it out and down the steps to the gun-carriage. The King fell in just behind the coffin, and behind him his brothers and Lord Harewood. Queen Mary entered the first carriage with the Princess Royal and the Duchess of York. In the second carriage were the Duchess of Gloucester, the Duchess of Kent, and the Queen's two ladies-in-waiting, Lady Desborough and Lady Elizabeth Motion.

From the cross-roads outside the gates there was heard very faintly wailing music from the bagpipes of the King's Piper. It was the first and the only music that reached any ear beyond the park. A minute later came the procession. In front walked the

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Chief Constable of Norfolk between two other police officers of high rank. Next came the Guards. Grey greatcoats hid their scarlet, and they were unarmed except for the bayonets in their white belts. They came forward at a quick march, the pace of the whole procession. A mounted officer of the Royal Horse Artillery in plumed busby and with drawn sword preceded the gun-carriage. Like the drivers of the six bay horses of the gun team, he wore his greatcoat of khaki. Draped over the coffin was the Royal Standard, and on it were two simple wreaths from Queen Mary and her family, nothing more.

The Royal train which brought King George back to his capital came quietly into King's Cross station at a quarter to three. In the darkened roadway beside the platform the Guards of Honour from the Navy, the Grenadier Guards, and the Royal Air Force had already brought their rifles with fixed bayonets to the "present," and stood rigid. A few black-coated officials waited on the platform. The gun-carriage, with its six horses, was ready to move forward to the place where it might receive its Royal burden. The double doors of the saloon in which the body of King George lay were gently opened. The door of Queen Mary's saloon, next behind it, was opened. No sound yet broke the stillness.

For a moment the train was as still as the place was silent. Then King Edward descended from his saloon and moved to the door of Queen Mary's coach to assist his mother and then his sister to alight. The Royal Dukes and their ladies followed. Led by the King and Queen Mary, the little black-garbed party moved forward towards the open doors of the funeral coach. There at the edge of the red carpet, which had silenced their footsteps too, the mourners halted, the Queen in a long black coat and long enveloping veil, with the King, bareheaded, on one side of her, and the Princess Royal, similarly veiled, on the other. The King and the Duke of York went quietly forward to the door of the coach while the coffin was being shrouded in the Royal Standard. Then the Imperial Crown, covered with purple cloth, was carried into the coach and was placed on the coffin.

Meanwhile the gun-carriage had been driven up without a clink of harness or the noticeable rumble of wheels on the sanded roadway. It drew up, and, while it waited, the King, with the Princess Royal, entered the funeral coach, the Princess to place Queen Mary's cross of white flowers at the head of the coffin, the King to satisfy himself personally that his father's

coffin was properly arrayed for its passage through the streets to Westminster. These small filial duties completed, the King and his sister rejoined Queen Mary, and Guards and officials stood motionless, as before, for orders which would allow them to take the coffin from the train.

Four minutes before three o'clock the King nodded his permission to the officials for the ceremony of removal to proceed. The eight Guardsmen bearers began to emerge with their Royal burden from the funeral coach. One became aware again of the sailors and soldiers as they presented arms once more to the King they had served. The coffin, wholly covered by its Standard, began its slow progress on the level shoulders of its bearers across the sanded path on the platform, passing close to the King and Queen Mary. Gently it was placed on the gun-carriage. Smoothly it was slid along the rollers, the Crown and the white cross undisturbed. The fringes of the Royal Standard were drawn clear of the wheels. The King took his position immediately behind the gun-carriage. The Duke of York and the Duke of Gloucester fell in behind him, and behind them again were the Duke of Kent and the Earl of Harewood.

From King's Cross to Westminster Hall, by way of Euston Road, Southampton Row, Kingsway, the Strand, and Whitehall, the body of the dead King on its gun-carriage passed between dense masses of people standing silently on either side of the roadway and many proving unable to control their grief. Some of the people had been there for hours, and almost all wore some sign of mourning.

The route was kept by thousands of police and special constables, who had little to do in controlling a crowd whose one desire was to be quiet and orderly. Military display there was none, save for the guards of honour at the station and Westminster Hall and the funeral procession itself.

This was pathetic and moving in its brief simplicity—the simplest display, perhaps, with which King George ever passed on a state occasion through the streets of his capital. Five policemen on white horses in front and four behind were the only escort. The team of the Royal Horse Artillery, in their dark overcoats, were only relieved in colour by a few gleams of gold, their white plumes, and the scarlet of their busby bags. The coffin lay on the gun-carriage under the Royal Standard, and on it glittered the Imperial Crown and a beautiful cross of flowers. Beside it, in their overcoats, marched the bearer party of the Grenadier Guards.

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The procession was timed to reach Westminster Hall at 4 o'clock, and it was as Big Ben boomed out the first stroke of the hour that the gun-carriage came to a halt at the entrance.

Under the canopy which had been erected outside Westminster Hall the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Great Chamberlain, the Earl Marshal, and the First Commissioner of Works stood waiting while the bearer party reverently raised the coffin. Waiting also was Queen Mary, who had arrived by motor-car a few minutes previously. As with slow steps the bearer party carried the coffin into Westminster Hall, the Union Jack flying at half-mast on the Victoria Tower fluttered down and the Royal Standard was hoisted in its place.

The Archbishop passed through the doors to meet the *cortège*. They closed, then swung open again. The waiting officials took station, and, as the coffin entered, borne aloft on the shoulders of eight Guardsmen, a procession moved slowly towards the catafalque. On the left, behind the coffin, walked King Edward, stern and erect, looking straight before him. On the right was Queen Mary, an ever-regal figure in deepest black. Behind came three more of the late King's children—the Duke of York, the Princess Royal, and the Duke of Gloucester; and in the last rank were the Duke of Kent, the Mistress of the Robes, and the Earl of Harewood.

In dead silence the procession advanced. The bearers slid the coffin on to the catafalque, stood a minute at attention, and marched forward and away. The mourners halted; and the Archbishop, turning round, read a few simple prayers. There was a hush; then from the steps the choir broke into the solemn but exultant hymn, "Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven." As the echoes of the last note died away the Archbishop pronounced the Benediction.

THE CROSS FALLS FROM THE CROWN

During the journey from King's Cross to Westminster Hall the Cross fell from the top of the Crown and was taken up by an officer of the escort, who put it in his pocket. In earlier days this would have been regarded as an omen of no small significance.

RUDYARD KIPLING

The ashes of Rudyard Kipling were buried in Westminster Abbey in the Poets' Corner, near the graves of Dickens and Hardy.

23-24 January

DEATH OF DAME CLARA BUTT

Dame Clara Butt, the most popular of all concert singers of the past generation, died to-day.

BABY FASCISTS FOR ITALY

The youngest children are now to be organised into Fascist units. At present the youngest Fascists are the *balillas*, boys of six to fourteen years of age. The new organisation of *pre-balillas* will be composed of boys under the age of six.

Friday 24

THE LYING IN STATE

The public Lying in State of the King began in Westminster Hall this morning. At 8 o'clock the people were already waiting in a long line from the entrance to Westminster Hall as far as Victoria Tower. All day they passed until the doors were closed at 10.30 p.m., when 110,000 had entered the hall.

PEACE IN THE COALFIELDS

The delegate conference of the Mineworkers' Federation have accepted district offers of wage increases. The owners' representatives offer that if there is full continuity of work, and no notice of a strike is given, the coalowners will be prepared to co-operate with the Mineworkers' Federation in setting up a joint standing consultative committee for the consideration of all questions of common interest and of general principles applicable to the determination of wages by district agreements. This offer is accepted by a large majority of the mineworkers as an instalment of the future improvement which will be possible by the proposed selling schemes. They are strongly influenced, they say, by the desirability of avoiding industrial disturbances in the circumstances of the nation and by the keenest desire to prevent loss and injury to the public, who have so loyally supported the miners' claims.

THE NEW FRENCH CABINET

M. Sarraut has succeeded in forming a ministry, with himself as Prime Minister, M. Paul-Boncour as Minister of State in charge of League of Nations affairs, and M. Flandin of Foreign Affairs.

THE SCOTTSBORO CASE

The defence in the Scottsboro case are much encouraged that the jury have fixed Patterson's sentence at seventy-five years' imprisonment instead of death. The trial of the second

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of the accused has begun to-day, but was adjourned owing to the illness of a witness. As the prisoners were being taken back to jail one of them, named Ozzie Powell, drew a pocket-knife and tried to stab a policeman sitting in the front seat next to the driver. The policeman turned and shot Powell in the stomach. He is now in hospital in a critical condition.

Sunday 26

THE LYING IN STATE

All day yesterday and to-day a great procession of all classes of people has passed through Westminster Hall from six in the morning till late at night.

A JEWEL-DEALER SHOT

Last Friday a middle-aged man was found dead with five bullet wounds in his body in the road near St. Albans. He has now been identified as Emil Allard, a French-Canadian, who has been in this country for the last two or three years, and was a dealer in jewellery, which he sold at bargain prices in the hotels and clubs in Soho. The police view is that men of the gangster type were responsible for Allard's death, and that he was "taken for a ride," riddled with bullets, and the body then taken from a car and placed in the little lane where it was found.

Monday 27

FIVE KINGS IN LONDON

King Haakon of Norway, King Christian of Denmark, King Leopold of the Belgians, King Boris of Bulgaria, and King Carol of Roumania are in London for the King's funeral. They were entertained to dinner by King Edward at Buckingham Palace.

THE KING ON GUARD

Shortly after midnight King Edward and his three brothers took part in the mounting of the guard over the dead King at the catafalque in Westminster Hall.

The customary changing of the guard had taken place when an officer, approaching the catafalque, saluted the Colour lying on the catafalque, and removed it. Almost immediately afterwards the King, in the uniform of the Welsh Guards, marched from the entrance of the Guards' officers' quarters to the catafalque. With him were the Duke of York, in the uniform of the Scots Guards, the Duke of Gloucester, in the uniform of the 10th Hussars, and the Duke of Kent, in naval uniform.

They took up their position between the Guards already on duty, the King facing the steps of St. Stephen's, with the Duke

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of Kent on his right, the Duke of Gloucester on his left, and the Duke of York facing the Palace Yard. They remained motionless, resting on their swords, for about a quarter of an hour, and then they slowly moved away from the catafalque and marched back to the Guards' quarters.

The public continued to enter the hall and to pass by the catafalque in the meantime, and most of them did not appear to be aware of what was happening.

ABYSSINIA

Scouts from General Graziani's forces are reported to have reached a point forty miles west of Negelli. The Italians claim that 10,000 Abyssinians were killed during the advance from Dolo to Negelli. The Italians captured Ras Desta's wireless station, which was still in connection with Addis Ababa, and soon replies were being sent to the anxious inquiries from Addis Ababa. "How is Ras Desta?" was asked, and the answer came back: "He is a little distance away from here at the moment." "And how are the troops?" "They are splendid and are not likely to be moving from here." It was some time before Addis Ababa realised what had happened.

HERR HITLER ON COLONIES

Herr Hitler spoke to a meeting of more than 6,000 students at Munich. During his speech he referred to the present policy of centralisation in Germany. "The old German Emperors," he said, "welded the country together at the cost of tribal and regional independence. We are doing the same to-day. Many people ask why we are abolishing the German States. I can only answer: 'I do not know why we are doing this. I only know that I must do it. You lose the past and gain the future.'"

Herr Hitler dealt in general terms with the colonial question: "It is nowadays believed that the task of colonisation is to make undeveloped peoples independent, but no one is eager to act on this by granting them independence. We must bear in mind that India did not send a deputation imploring the English to teach them how to walk. On the contrary, it was the English who went out to India in order to teach the natives the correct British way of walking. This could not be effected without pain and trouble. In 150 years the aim was achieved, and the Indians learned to walk in the true British style.

"The white race is destined to rule. It has the unconscious urge to rule. This urge arises from its heroic conception of wealth, which is entirely non-pacifist. After all, what a great

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statesman said is true, that the British Empire was built up by adventurers. To-day American professors dispute the justification of this conception, but when the white race abandons the foundations of its rule over the world it will lose that rule. It is a rule which is the basis of the European economic structure."

These frank observations were omitted from the report issued by the official news agency and in the German Press.

Tuesday 28

THE FUNERAL OF KING GEORGE

To-day the body of King George was taken from Westminster for burial in Windsor. At about a quarter past nine the royal mourners from foreign countries arrived at Westminster Hall, and soon afterwards the Royal Dukes and the King himself, accompanied by King Leopold of the Belgians. After a while the coffin, draped with the Royal Standard, and bearing the Crown, the Orb, the Sceptre, and the Insignia of the Garter, was carried slowly forward and placed on the gun-carriage, which was drawn by sailors. As the coffin, with the King walking behind it, passed out of the Palace Yard, the Royal Standard which had been flying at half-mast over the Palace was struck, and a Union Jack broken in its place. Behind the gun-carriage a warrant officer of the Household Cavalry bore the Royal Standard, followed by the King, in naval great-coat, walking alone and erect, but heavily, the strain of the past week and of the previous night's vigil being visible in him. He was followed by the Dukes of York, Gloucester and Kent, by the President of the French Republic, by the Royal mourners from abroad, by the Marquess of Carisbrooke, Prince Arthur of Connaught, and other members of the House of Windsor, all on foot.

Queen Mary's coach, which by its sudden colour lit the scene, preceded a group of High Commissioners and representatives of foreign States. Behind them, stretching into the distance, was a long line of foreign delegations, civil, military, and naval, and beyond these the head of the third division of the escort. For twenty-five minutes they moved past—the escort, the sombre police contingent, the fire brigade contingent, and, finally, the last of the Horse Guards—the church bells still their only music.

The crowds along the route were incredibly large, and many of them had been waiting since before midnight. By the Marble Arch there was considerable trouble and some panic. People

were crying out, half in fear, half in protest, and many fainted. At one time the lines of troops facing the end of the Bayswater Road were caught on a wave of pressure and broke, and the road was entirely blocked, but the efforts of police, troops, and Boy Scouts pushed them back and a line was re-formed, leaving, however, a narrow passage for the procession. The impersonal voice from the loud-speaker was heard begging the people to remember the solemnity of the occasion and the very real distress of those in the front line of the crowd, but the crowd continued uneasy and alarmed.

As a result the procession was half an hour late in arriving at Paddington Station. The funeral train should have reached Windsor at 12.35, but it was not until 9 minutes past 1 o'clock that it was seen approaching the station to the accompaniment of minute-guns.

The coach containing the coffin was drawn up within a few yards of the Royal waiting-room. Under the direction of the Earl Marshal the bearer party entered the coach and the coffin was borne reverently across the platform to the gun-carriage. In the stillness the command "Off caps" rang out, and the men from the *Excellent* stood with bared heads and hands gripping the drag-ropes as the bearers passed. On the coffin lay the Royal Standard, and surmounting it the Crown, the Regalia, the Insignia of the Order of the Garter, and the Queen's wreath. Then, for a moment of unforgettable beauty, the stillness was broken by the wailing of the bos'n's pipe. The Navy was paying its own tribute to the Monarch whom it regarded as its special possession. The bos'n's whistle was piping the call "Admiral alongside." A few seconds later, when the coffin had been placed on the gun-carriage, came the second shrill call, "Admiral aboard."

As the sound of the pipe died in the air the final orders were given. The Earl Marshal took his place in the procession, which moved slowly forward to the sound of the Funeral March. As in London, the King walked immediately behind his father's body, with his brothers a pace in the rear. Behind them came the foreign Monarchs and Princes, and then a solitary carriage drawn by a pair of Windsor greys and carrying Queen Mary, Queen Maud of Norway, the Princess Royal, the Duchess of York, and Princess Elizabeth. The company which had assembled on the platform after the arrival of the last special train joined the procession, and finally came seven cars, in which rode the other Royal ladies, and the sons of the

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Princess Royal. And so the last progress began, and, as the mourners passed out of the station into the crowded High Street, the last impression they gathered was of the lowered colours of the eighty branches of the British Legion in the County of Berkshire, all borne by men in civilian clothes.

As the procession approached St. George's Chapel the ecclesiastical procession advanced with measured tread to the main entrance to meet it. It was headed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, walking side by side with the Dean of Windsor—for no Bishop or Archbishop has jurisdiction over the chapel. Behind came the Archbishop of York and the Canons of the Chapel, the former in black and gold, the latter in murrey cassocks with the Cross of St. George on a white ground on their left shoulder. The copes worn by the Archbishops to-day were those first used for the funeral of Charles II. Both Archbishops displayed their primatial crosses as a matter of courtesy and not as a right; and southerners in the congregation had the unusual sight of the splendid cross of York being carried in procession south of the Trent.

There was a long wait at the western door, for the arrival at Windsor had been about forty minutes late, and for this reason the two minutes' silence could not be observed in the chapel. During the interval, other ladies in deepest mourning came, headed by Queen Victoria Eugénie of Spain, and took their places in the choir; and there, after the procession had entered, they were joined by the Royal Duchesses, Princess Elizabeth holding her mother's hand, and the two sons of the Princess Royal in kilts of the Royal tartan. Just beyond the screen on either side of the entrance to the chancel were stationed the Military Knights of Windsor in their cocked hats with abrupt little red and white plumes. In marched the Officers of Arms, with their richly embroidered tabards—all the English Pursuivants and Heralds and the five Kings of Arms, including Ulster and the Lord Lyon, who had come to accompany their English brethren. They formed up just in front of the Military Knights.

At last there floated into the church the faint thunder of the Funeral March played by the massed bands of the Guards. It died away, and through the door came the shrill blast of the bos'n's pipe as the coffin was "piped over the side" at the foot of the steps. As it was borne up to the entrance, the skirl of Highland pipes took up the mourning music, and to their high, exultant wailing the coffin passed through the door.

The whole congregation rose to their feet and looked with reverence and pity at two beyond all others of the mighty procession that paced slowly up to the chancel steps. These two were, first, King Edward VIII, with his set face from which all the boyish and nervous glow of the Prince of Wales had vanished in a few brief days, and, secondly, Queen Mary, erect, stately, and infinitely sad.

As the procession advanced, the choir at its head broke into a chanting of the magnificent and uplifting promises, "I am the resurrection and the life" and "I know that my Redeemer liveth." Slowly they mounted the steps, slowly swung to the right as the clergy swung to the left, and slowly the bearers placed the coffin on the purple-covered bier at the foot of the steps leading to the altar. There followed a pause, while the bearers lifted the Crown, Orb, and Sceptre, carried them to a small dais prepared on the left of the altar steps, and replaced them with a mass of flowers, placed ready to hand by the Comptroller of the Household.

King Edward and his mother stood motionless behind the coffin. Behind them, right to the doors, stood the long line of Kings, Presidents, Princes, and leaders of nations. Suddenly the choir broke into the psalm of comfort, "The Lord is my Shepherd." As the last note died away the Bishop of Winchester, as Prelate of the Order of the Garter, moved to the foot of the coffin, and in a clear but clearly moved voice read the lesson from Revelation, with its solemn assurance, "There shall be no more death." Again the choir took up the service with the dead King's favourite hymn, "Abide with me."

Then the deep tones of the Archbishop of Canterbury uttered the terrible words, a reminder of the frailty of man, which precede committal of the body to the earth. The coffin sank slowly down into the vault through the floor to its resting-place. King Edward stepped forward and cast a handful of earth upon it. Then, while all hearts were wrung for him at that bitter moment, the Archbishop pronounced the formula of committal: "Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust"; but "in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life."

His place was taken by the Archbishop of York, who read the prayers for the departed. Then the Garter Principal King of Arms stood forth, and with a touch of nervousness pronounced the styles of both the dead and of the living King. As the sonorous titles rolled through the chapel, all felt that

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sorrow at a noble ending yielded a little to confidence in a noble beginning and to comfort in the continuity of the British monarchy, and many lips moved in soundless echo of the final cry, "God Save the King." A last prayer for divine aid in life and death was chanted by the choir, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of All England, pronounced the Benediction. So ended a service deeply impressive in its simplicity, in the appeal of its music, in the high courage of the chief mourners, and in the reverent sincerity alike of the officiants and of the congregation.

King Edward passed out with his mother. After they had gone the Kings and representatives of foreign Powers one by one advanced, bowed towards the rectangle of purple carpet that now covered the tomb, and went out through the north door of the chancel. The rest of the congregation, without formality, slowly filed out each by the nearest door. In a few moments the chapel was empty.

King Edward and Queen Mary returned to London without ceremony. In the same train travelled also the Prime Minister and Mrs. Baldwin. They reached Paddington at 3.22, and the King and Queen Mary went by car to Buckingham Palace, whence the King returned to St. James's. In the evening he dined with Queen Mary.

Wednesday 29

KING EDWARD

King Edward has spent a busy day. He drove from York House to Buckingham Palace early and there received some of the distinguished representatives of foreign Powers who came to London for the Royal funeral. For the present the King is continuing to reside at York House. He is only using one room at Buckingham Palace for his official work.

A MEMORIAL TO LAWRENCE OF ARABIA

St. Paul's was crowded this evening when a memorial to Lawrence of Arabia was unveiled in the crypt. The ceremony was performed by Lord Halifax as Chancellor of the University of Oxford, who afterwards delivered an address from the pulpit on Lawrence's fame and character. Many of those who had served with Lawrence in the Arab War were in the congregation, as well as friends from Oxford and the Air Force.

THE BRITISH ACADEMY IN ROME

The British Academy of Arts in Rome, after more than 112 years, has been closed indefinitely, and its equipment is to be

put into storage. In the present conditions prevailing in Italy there was no other alternative. The minimum capital sum of £6,000 will be necessary before it can re-open.

JAPANESE COMMENT ON HERR HITLER

Herr Hitler's recent remarks that it was the destiny of the white race to rule have caused much offence in Japan. Several times recently the German Embassy has represented to the Japanese Foreign Office that Herr Hitler, not being a politician, but a national ruler, should be immune from caricature in the Press, but his utterances make it difficult to persuade the newspapers to regard him as exempt from the criticisms to which politicians expose themselves.

Thursday 30

QUEEN MARY'S MESSAGE TO THE NATION

Queen Mary has written a message to the nation: "I must send to you, the people of this nation and Empire, a message of my deepest gratitude for all the sympathy with which at this time of sorrow you have surrounded me. It is indeed a gratitude so deep that I cannot find words to express it. But the simplest words are the best. I can only say with all my heart, I thank you.

"In my own great sorrow I have been upheld not only by the strength of your sympathy, but also by the knowledge that you have shared my grief. For I have been deeply moved by the signs, so full and touching, that the passing of my dear husband has brought a real sense of personal sorrow to all his subjects. In the midst of my grief I rejoice to think that after his reign of twenty-five years he lived to know that he had received the reward in overflowing measure of the loyalty and love of his people.

"Although he will be no longer at my side—and no words can tell how I shall miss him—I trust that with God's help I may still be able to continue some part at least of the service which for forty-two years of happy married life we tried together to give to this great land and Empire. During the coming years, with all the changes which they must bring, you will, I know, let me have a place in your thoughts and prayers.

"I commend to you my dear son as he enters upon his reign, in confident hope that you will give to him the same devotion and loyalty which you gave so abundantly to his father.

"God bless you, dear people, for all the wonderful love and sympathy with which you have sustained me."

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A BIOGRAPHY OF EDWARD VIII

The first of the new biographies of King Edward VIII is now on sale. It is published by Hutchinson and written by Mr. Basil Maine, with the title of *Our Ambassador King*.

THE NURSING-HOME MURDER

There has been considerable interest in the evidence given before the coroner's jury at Nottingham inquiring into the death of Miss Baguley in a nursing-home at Nottingham. This home was kept by a Mrs. Dorothea Waddingham. To-day the coroner summed up, continually interrupted by Mrs. Waddingham. In the end the jury brought in a unanimous verdict of wilful murder against Mrs. Waddingham and Ronald Joseph Sullivan, who assisted the administration of her nursing-home.

JAPANESE ARMY UNREST

The court-martial at Tokyo of Lieutenant-Colonel Saburo Aizawa (who is being tried for the murder of Major-General Nagata on 12 August last) vividly reveals the political ferment amongst young officers of the Japanese Army. The atmosphere of the trial is highly emotional. A letter written by the prisoner in his own blood has been read in court, and both the prisoner and his defender, Lieutenant-Colonel Mitsui, have wept in an excess of patriotic passion. The defence pleads patriotic motives. Colonel Mitsui describes Colonel Aizawa as a member of the Second Restoration Movement (which aspires to create a state of affairs in which politicians and capitalists shall not interpose themselves between ruler and people). He asserts that most young officers believe in the movement, and that, if the court fails to understand Colonel Aizawa's spirit, a second and a third Aizawa would arise. The prosecutor declared that Colonel Aizawa had brooded over the condition of the nation and had concluded that a national renovation in politics, diplomacy, education, and economics was necessary. He held that the renovation should begin with the Army, and killed Major-General Nagata because he believed him to be in league with senior statesmen and politically minded generals, and was using his official position to frustrate the movement.

EGYPT

After many days of political confusion in Egypt, a compromise between the parties has been found and Ali Pasha Maher, Chief of the Royal Cabinet, has formed a Government.

A NEW PLAY

At the Westminster Theatre a play by W. H. Auden and Christopher Isherwood, called *The Dog Beneath the Skin*, was given a first performance. The authors have invented a little legend which sends a young man and a dog, under the skin of which a baronet is concealed, on a journey through the contemporary world. This world, as they see it, is a racket or conspiracy among men to avoid facing the evil truth and taking action to remedy it.

Friday 31

THE KING

The King has assumed the ranks of Admiral of the Fleet, Field Marshal, and Marshal of the Royal Air Force. He and Queen Mary wish all public dinners and entertainments associated with Government, trade, charity, or the arts to take place as usual.

The Prayer Book is now to be amended, so that instead of the word *George* in prayers for the King the word *Edward* appears, and for *Our Gracious Queen Mary, Edward Prince of Wales, etc.*, the words are *Our Gracious Queen Mary, Albert Duke of York, the Duchess of York, etc.*

Nearly all the Royal representatives who came to England for the funeral of King George have left London.

DEATH OF GENERAL KONDYLIS

General Kondylis died suddenly in Athens. He was chiefly responsible for the restoration of King George II to the throne of Greece last year, and for many years has been one of the outstanding figures in Greek politics. In October 1935 he made a *coup d'état*, not for the first time, and became Prime Minister. Then he proclaimed himself Regent, and in November persuaded the King to return. He had hoped to be appointed the first Prime Minister of the restored monarchy, but when the King preferred to set up a neutral Cabinet he publicly admitted the King's wisdom and refrained from establishing his own claim by force. He was nicknamed the Thunderbolt.

INTENSE COLD

So great is the cold in America that the Falls of Niagara are frozen solid.

Saturday 1 February

EGYPT

Now that the new Government under Ali Pasha Maher has been formed, treaty conversations with Great Britain are to begin at once, with some fair prospect of success.

1-2 February

FURTHER TROUBLE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PARIS

Professor Gaston Jèze attempted to resume his lectures at the Paris Faculty of Law. After a strict check of those entering the lecture hall had been made he was able to begin his lecture, but a little later several hundred students broke in and created a violent uproar, hurling stink bombs to emphasise their displeasure. These young men are ardent supporters of the Right and declare that by his able defence of the Ethiopian cause at Geneva Professor Jèze ran counter to the interests and policy of the French Government.

THE POST OFFICE PEN

The Post Office, sensitive at the old scandal of the badness of its pens, is issuing a new model of penholder, of graceful shape and proportion, vivid red, and stamped with the initials of the G.P.O. The new pen is fitted with a stainless nib locked into the holder.

Sunday 2

ABYSSINIAN CLAIMS

The Abyssinians claim a great victory over the Italians, saying that Ras Kassa's army has captured 29 guns, 175 machine guns, 2,654 rifles; but the Italians say that there is nothing remarkable to report, except that in the Tembien area three guns and a few machine guns fell into the enemy's hands.

A SMITHFIELD STRIKE

"Pitchers" in Smithfield Market have gone on strike. About 4,000 men are involved.

THE DEATH OF "EMIL ALLARD"

A Frenchman named Lacroix was detained in Paris yesterday on suspicion of being concerned in the murder of "Emil Allard," who is otherwise known as Max Kassel. A woman named Genevieve Bertrand, alias Marguerite Ferrère, who was found with Lacroix in the hotel where he was arrested, is also detained.

The arrest was made possible by the receipt by the British police of information to the effect that Kassel was shot in a flat in Soho belonging to a Frenchwoman, of whom a description was given. The police found a British associate of the woman, who told them that she and the Frenchman who was alleged to have shot Kassel crossed the Channel on Friday. Detectives from Scotland Yard flew to Paris yesterday morning, and an hour and a half after they landed at Le Bourget Lacroix was found in a

hotel bedroom and seized before he could attempt to escape. He and the woman were questioned all last night by the police.

DEATH OF SIR OWEN SEAMAN

Sir Owen Seaman, for the last twenty-six years editor of *Punch*, has died at the age of seventy-four. He was a facile and witty writer of topical verse, but brilliant in parody.

Monday 3

MR. RAMSAY MACDONALD

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, who has been out of the House of Commons since he was defeated at the General Election last autumn, is elected for the Scottish Universities.

THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S REPORT

During the year 1934 there were 597,642 births, which is an increase of 17,229 on 1933, but otherwise the lowest since 1850, when the population was less than half what it is to-day. There were 342,307 marriages and 4,287 divorces. Since the census of 1931 the population has increased by about half a million.

Tuesday 4

SPAIN

The Spaniards prepare for their General Election. In Madrid the Prime Minister (who is also Home Minister) keeps electoral propaganda orderly with the aid of the police. Candidates who insult the authorities are summarily arrested. Since both sides protest, authority would appear to be impartial.

TRIAL BY PEERS

In the House of Lords the motion "that the present system of Trial by Peers has outlived its usefulness" was carried by forty-five votes to twenty-four.

PARLIAMENT

To-day the House of Commons re-assembled for legislative business for the first time in the new reign.

WATERLOO BRIDGE

Another stage is reached in demolishing Waterloo Bridge. All the arches and the greater part of the stonework have gone; there remains the work of demolishing each pier down to its foundations.

A NEW PLAY AT THE OLD VIC

At the Old Vic a play called *St. Helena*, by R. C. Sherriff and Jeanne de Casalis, was produced, dealing with the last days of Napoleon Bonaparte.

A PLAY ABOUT QUEEN VICTORIA

Mr. Laurence Housman's chronicle play of Queen Victoria's life called *Victoria Regina* is now being played in New York with great success.

COMMUNISTS IN CHINA: A PRISONER RELEASED

Mr. A. Hayman, a New Zealand missionary belonging to the China Inland Mission, who was released last November after 413 days in captivity in the hands of Communists in north-eastern Kweichow and north-western Hunan, has now been able to tell his story. He says that the organisation of the Communists is very efficient. They pay in silver for everything they take from the peasantry. The rich, however, are called aristocrats, despoiled, and taken captive. Periodically batches of them are taken out to be beheaded, but, at the whim of the Reds, some out of every batch are set free to carry the news of the fate of the others to the outside world and to spur the friends of those still held to greater efforts in raising the ransoms. Mr. Hayman and his companion, Mr. Bosshardt (by birth a Swiss), saw much of the Communist rank and file. In each Communist billet a room was set aside as a meeting-place, and the Communists—all of them young men in their twenties—would gather daily for instruction in Marxist principles, rather like Christian Endeavour meetings. The Communists have no uniforms, but all wear jockey-caps with a five-pointed star, representing the five continents which they hope to conquer.

The prisoners were well treated. Whilst Chinese captives were given two bowls of rice gruel a day, they had the same food as the Communist soldiers—rice, chiles, and sometimes meat, three times a day.

The Reds express the greatest hatred for the English (not the British) as Imperialists of the deepest dye. Towards the end of his captivity Mr. Hayman's health broke down, and, fearing lest he should die, the Communists released him, but Mr. Bosshardt is still held prisoner.

5-7 February

Wednesday 5

THE ARCHDUKE OTTO

There is much excitement in mid-Europe because the Archduke Otto, travelling incognito, has come to Paris from Belgium. His arrival has wrecked a meeting intended between Prince Starhemberg, the Austrian Vice-Chancellor, and Prince Paul, the Senior Regent of Yugoslavia.

THE GERMAN TRANSLATION OF SHAKESPEARE

There has been considerable controversy of recent years in Germany over the translation of Shakespeare used in the theatres. Before the war the translation by Schlegel and Tieck, made early in the nineteenth century, was in use, but since then that of Herr Hans Rothe has become popular, although some criticised it severely for undue colloquialism. Dr. Goebbels, the Minister of National Enlightenment and Propaganda, has now started an inquiry intended to settle the dispute.

Thursday 6

GAMBLING DISCOURAGED IN PEKING

To discourage gambling, hundreds of gamblers were made to parade the streets of Peking in the snow. Five have been shot.

A NEW BOOK ON SHAKESPEARE

Mr. Middleton Murry's *Shakespeare*, which has been long announced, has now been published.

Friday 7

THE LAW OF CORONERS' INQUESTS

A committee set up last year to inquire into the law and practice relating to coroners recommend reforms. In particular they urge that the verdict in cases of suicide should be simply that the deceased died by his own hand. No inquiry into the state of mind of the deceased should be made in cases of suicide, except when it may throw light on the question of whether he took his life. The coroner should no longer have the power to commit any person for trial on a charge of murder, manslaughter, or infanticide. In any case in which questions of criminality are involved, the laws of evidence should be observed; and where a person is suspected of causing the death he should not be called and put on oath unless he so desires, and he should not be cross-examined.

The committee condemn certain recent cases by name where the coroner's inquest took the form of a trial. They recommend that a higher class of jury should be chosen, for at present most unsuitable persons are often chosen for the jury; and in

7 February

one town, so they were told, the coroner's jury is regularly chosen from the inmates of the workhouse.

DANGEROUS CRITICISMS

An evangelical pastor has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment at Brunswick for instructing his confirmation class not to give the Hitler salute and not to take part in the "shriek against the Jews." He has also offended by praying God to protect "that poor hated people." The court in its judgment said that it was really the affair of the Church whether it should suffer a clergyman to invoke the Master who had Himself made the Jews homeless owing to their vices, but it was highly objectionable that the pastor should represent the Jewish people as in need of protection and the object of hatred if the Party, State, or nation made use of its necessary right of self-defence.

In Italy, Professor Antonio Mario Pesenti was sentenced to twenty-four years' imprisonment for anti-Fascist activity. Dr. Pesenti, who is only twenty-five, was the Professor of Finance at the University of Sassari. He was accused of publishing in France articles criticising the Fascist regime and of attending a meeting in Brussels where speeches were delivered against the Abyssinian War. He admitted these charges and received the maximum penalty.

MR. A. P. HERBERT, M.P.

Mr. A. P. Herbert, M.P., formally presented to the House of Commons three Bills: on Marriage, on Public Refreshment, and on Betting.

SIR OSWALD MOSLEY AWARDED $\frac{1}{4}d$.

Sir Oswald Mosley is awarded damages of one farthing in his action for slander against Mr. John Marchbank, of the National Union of Railwaymen. Sir Oswald alleged that Mr. Marchbank, in the course of a speech, had said, in effect, that he had issued secret instructions to the Fascists suggesting that they should find out how many officers of the Forces would join the Fascist Party on the promise of jobs, and had recommended members of the Fascist movement to use such weapons as rubber clubs filled with shot, knuckle-dusters, and knives, and that Mr. Marchbank said that the Fascists were assembling in the guise of a military machine to overthrow the Government of the country by force. In his defence, Mr. Marchbank denied that the words were capable of bearing a defamatory meaning.

9-10 February

Sunday 9

A RECORD FLIGHT TO THE CAPE

A new record flight to the Cape has been completed by Flight-Lieutenant Tommy Rose, who flew from Lympne to Capetown in 3 days, 17 hours, 37 minutes, thereby beating Miss Amy Johnson's time by 13 hours and 19 minutes.

A NEW AIR LINE

A new air line between London and Sweden was started to-day.

A FIRE AT ELSTREE STUDIOS

About five acres of studio buildings were destroyed by fire early this morning at Elstree. The buildings were occupied partly by British and Dominions and partly by British International Pictures. The fire started in one of the three studios of British and Dominions and spread very rapidly. It was first noticed about 2 in the morning by a fireman. The alarm was raised, and a dozen or more fire engines arrived within a few minutes. In the sharp, frosty air, and fanned by a strong breeze, the flames mounted to about 100 feet above the structure and spread so quickly that they soon involved the whole of the studios of British and Dominions and then burst through the dividing-wall to the studios and recording theatre of British International. The fire was so hot that the firemen were driven back and unable to subdue it. They were, however, able to save the main building of British International, which was separated by a private roadway. The films which had just been made were saved, as well as valuable equipment.

Monday 10

THE NAVAL CONFERENCE

Good progress is reported in the Naval Conference, and the Drafting Sub-Committee have been instructed to proceed with the limits to be allowed to air-carriers, cruisers, and submarines

EGYPT

After much talk, Ali Pasha Maher, Prime Minister, and Sir Miles Lampson, British High Commissioner, have found a satisfactory formula so that the negotiations of a treaty may be begun between Great Britain and Egypt.

A GREAT GALE

Another great gale has passed over the whole of England and Ireland, reaching a velocity of 88 to 100 miles an hour, and causing much damage.

Tuesday 11

THE PEPPER CASE

The trial has begun at the Central Criminal Court of Garabed Bishirgian, John Henry Charles Ernest Howeson, and other persons. The charge against Bishirgian is that he, as a director of James and Shakespeare Limited, caused a prospectus to be published which he knew to be false, with intent to induce persons to become shareholders.

THE FRANCO-SOVIET PACT

The Franco-Soviet Pact, which was signed in Paris at the beginning of last May, was presented to the Chamber of Deputies for ratification, and discussions have begun.

MR. MALCOLM MACDONALD

Mr. Malcolm MacDonald will now rejoin his father in the House of Commons. In the by-election in the Ross and Cromarty division he polled 8,949. Mr. Hector McNeil, the Labour candidate, polled 5,967; Mr. Randolph Churchill as a Conservative, 2,427; and Dr. Russell Thomas, Liberal, 738

"MODERN TIMES"

Charles Chaplin's new film, *Modern Times*, was shown at the Tivoli for the first time.

Mr. Chaplin begins as one of a row of mechanics whose job it is to tighten bolts as they pass in an endless chain. They are quicker than his spanner, and, if one eludes him, he leaps after it as an obsessed kitten spins after its tail. Into his factory comes a hopeful traveller with a mechanical device for the rapid feeding of operatives, and so for saving the time customarily wasted in the dinner-hour. Mr. Chaplin is chosen as the subject of experiment. He is set in the feeding-chair. Soup is poured, food is propelled, into his mouth; a corn-cob is revolved, like a barber's machine-brush, under his nose; the apparatus goes mad, as machines will, and humanity, in the person of Mr. Chaplin, has a nervous breakdown. So to hospital. So, with variation of detail, to prison, from which, to his profound regret, he is released upon a bleak, noisy, friendless world.

A world, however, in which he finds a friend, a *gamine* pilfering bread and bananas on the water-front, a dark, active, dancing waif—Miss Paulette Goddard. Mr. Chaplin's immediate concern is to get back into a comfortable prison, and his attempts to do so—the meal that he blandly refuses to pay for, the cigars which he picks from a tobacconist's stall with his

right hand while the policeman is engaged with his left—are among those details of fantastic invention that are the making of the film; far better than his adventure with Miss Goddard, which drags, and at least the equal of his later escapades, which bring him at last, as a waiter and a singer in cabaret, to a restaurant in which Miss Goddard is the dancer.

Here Mr. Chaplin is at the top of his form. The roast duck and chianti that he carries across the dancing-floor are whirled away in the dance, and when at last the opportunity comes to him, as a singer, to retrieve his shattered fortunes as a waiter, the cuff, on which the words of his song are written, being, like his memory, detachable, becomes detached. He is lost, paralysed, ruined; but, at the sight of Miss Goddard, he opens his mouth and sings. Not English, not French, not Italian, not Spanish—and yet, under the sublime influence of the Jabberwock, all of these. What he sings is the national anthem of those who builded the Tower of Babel, and it is sung with *élan*, a kind of dashing pathos, that is Mr. Chaplin's own.

Wednesday 12

THE GENEVA OIL INQUIRY

The Experts' Committee at Geneva, which has for some time been considering the possibility of an embargo on oil for Italy, report that such an embargo, even if universally applied, could not take effect before three or three and a half months: and this only if the United States limit her exports to Italy to the normal level of her exports before 1935. Otherwise the only results will be to render the purchase of oil by Italy more difficult and more expensive.

"L'ATLANTIQUE"

The hull of the great liner *Atlantique*, which was burned almost as soon as completed, has been bought by a British group for £57,000.

THE MARSEILLES ASSASSINATION

After three days' trial, the three Croat revolutionaries, charged with complicity in the murder of King Alexander of Yugoslavia and M. Barthou at Marseilles on 9 October, 1934, were found guilty, but with extenuating circumstances. All three were sentenced to imprisonment for life with hard labour. Three other confederates who were equally charged with complicity, but could not be brought to France for trial, were sentenced to death in absence by a separate session of the court sitting without a jury. The actual murderer of King Alexander died of injuries which he received at the time. The

accused admitted their membership of the Ustacha, a Croat terrorist organisation, by which they were sent to France with Kelemen, the actual murderer. By French law the accomplices of a murderer are liable to capital punishment, but the discovery by the jury of extenuating circumstances saved the lives of the three Ustachis. Their verdict, which will cause no small indignation in Yugoslavia, seems to have been mainly inspired by the way in which the case was handled by the judicial authorities and the police. The disbarring of Maître Georges Desbons, the counsel for the defence, in the first part of the trial, after one of the loud disputes which are so frequent in French courts, deprived the prisoners of an advocate who was well acquainted—perhaps too well acquainted—with the Croatian background of official brutality and terrorist reprisal which disfigures recent Yugoslav history. But it seems to have given the jury the impression that the dice were loaded against the prisoners. This impression may well have been confirmed when the presiding judge, after learning that the prisoners were bound by their terrorist oath with death as the penalty, remarked to the jury, "You see, gentlemen, Kralj was already condemned to death by running away from his duty at Marseilles." The proceedings, indeed, were saturated with a peculiar mixture of ruthless disregard for the elementary rules of evidence and romantic and patriotic sentimentality, and gave rise to little less criticism than the negligence shown by the authorities on the fatal day both at Marseilles and on the Italian frontier. These circumstances have left the impression that there was more behind the crime than a purely Croatian conspiracy, that the dangerous favour shown to Croat terrorists was not confined to Hungary, and that other secret organisations may have been connected with a detestable assassination.

Thursday 13

AN ATTACK ON M. BLUM

A band of young men of the Camelots du Roi attacked M. Blum, the leader of the Socialist Party, in the Boulevard Saint-Germain. M. Blum was in a car with M. Monnet and his wife. The demonstrators surrounded the car, smashed the windows, and dragged out its occupants, whom they hustled and struck. One of them wrenched off the rear number-plate and the tail-lamp of the car, with which he struck M. Blum on the head, causing a deep cut behind the ear which severed an artery. Kicked and bruised, M. Blum escaped from his attackers and ran to the nearest house, where the concierge was so terrified

to see him streaming with blood that he slammed the door in his face. At the next house some workmen who were repairing the pavement pulled him into the courtyard and barricaded the door until the arrival of the police ambulance which took him to hospital. Later he was able to go home.

PARIS'S LAST CABBY

M. Chevallerau, the last to earn his living as a *cocher de fiacre*, has been awarded the City Medal by the Paris Municipal Council on the eve of his retirement. M. Chevallerau first drove a cab in 1891.

Friday 14 SIR AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN ATTACKS MR. BALDWIN

In the House of Commons to-day, Sir Murray Sueter brought forward a Bill to establish a Ministry of Defence, which he views over a wide field. He wanted, he said, a Ministry of Defence with plenty of air sense, furnished with a staff trained in the Imperial Defence College, with civilian assistants, possessing wide industrial experience, and with representatives of the Dominions. There must be a permanent whole-time secretary to this new department. He begged Mr. Baldwin, on the eve of a great expansion of the defence services, to see that the money is not wasted, and that the best weapons are secured.

Mr. Attlee, leader of the Opposition, said that a Minister of Defence must deal only with broad decisions and not with administrative details. The suggested changes would leave final responsibility to the Cabinet and final approval with the House of Commons.

Sir Austen Chamberlain said that the House and the country had experienced in recent times some very rude shocks for which they were wholly unprepared. He quoted some of Mr. Baldwin's statements in 1934 on the relative position of this country in air defence compared with Germany, and his subsequent admission in May 1935 that he had been completely misled. He could recall no comparable announcement by the head of the Government on a fundamental issue of defence in over forty years of parliamentary experience. There was also Mr. Baldwin's speech last December when defending the policy of the Hoare-Laval proposals. On that occasion the Prime Minister had said that if his lips were unsealed he could make a case, and guarantee that not a man would go into the lobby against him. A few days later the papers were published, and Mr. Baldwin made a speech in which he again confessed error,

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but he said nothing to explain his earlier references to his lips being sealed. These things are not pleasant or reassuring. They would not have happened if the thinking machine of the Government had been working properly, and if their defence organisation had been really efficient.

The matter having been aired at length, Sir Murray Sueter withdrew his proposal.

Sunday 16

SPAIN: THE GENERAL ELECTION

The General Election has taken place in Spain without major incident, though there were open disturbances in some parts, where the glass urns used for ballot-boxes were broken. In Granada, at one polling-booth men appeared with pistols and held up the Presiding Committee while a comrade stuffed voting-papers into the urn. In Catalonia the Left have gained an overwhelming victory, and the Governor-General has already resigned.

THE ATTACK ON M. BLUM

Two young Camelots du Roi and a Royalist architect were arrested and charged with direct participation in the attack on M. Blum. They were identified with the help of photographs developed from a cinema film of the incident taken by an amateur. Thirty inspectors were provided with copies of the photographs, and within a few hours they had visited the homes of nearly all members of the section of the Camelots du Roi. In the afternoon a crowd of over 100,000, all wearing red badges, assembled to protest.

Monday 17

ABYSSINIA: ANOTHER ITALIAN VICTORY

The Italians report another victory south of Makale, where the first and third army have overcome the resistance of Ras Mulugeta, whose troops are in full flight towards the south. They are being heavily bombed, and are reported to be either too weary or too dazed to take proper precautions to save themselves. There is great jubilation in Italy, where, by order of Signor Mussolini, flags are to be flown from dawn until sundown. The Duce telegraphed Marshal Badoglio that his victory had caused the soul of the Italian people to quiver with pride and exultation.

THE RESCUE OF MR. ELLSWORTH

The *Discovery II* with the rescued Antarctic airmen, Mr. Lincoln Ellsworth and Mr. Hollick-Kenyon, has now reached Melbourne. The airmen who rescued the explorers say that

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Mr. Hollick-Kenyon, when he met the rescue party, remarked, "I say, it's awfully decent of you fellows to drop in on us like this." He was spotlessly clean and neatly dressed, close shaved, his hair cut, and his handkerchief matching his tie.

THE SPANISH ELECTION

Although returns of the elections are still incomplete, it is clear that there has been a swing to the Left.

OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES

The Olympic Winter Games finished at Garmisch-Partenkirchen. The ice hockey was won by a team of English-born players, who defeated the Canadians. In the figure-skating, Miss Cecilia Colledge, who is still little more than a child, almost defeated Fröken Sonja Henje, the champion, and at one time was actually leading.

Tuesday 18

THE HOUSE OF LORDS DEBATE ON THE ABYSSINIAN WAR

In the House of Lords, Lord Phillimore put down a motion asking what steps, if any, the Government are taking to promote a peaceful settlement acceptable to all parties to the Italo-Abyssinian dispute, and to put an end to the danger now run by this country of becoming involved in war. He said that the Hoare-Laval proposals as a basis of negotiation pointed the way to settlement, but the Government's change of policy further estranged Italy and led Great Britain into dangerous commitments. Lord Noel-Buxton was equally urgent in a desire for an effort for peace, but a peace that would vindicate the collective security system and import League influences into Abyssinia to ensure the reforms needed in that country. Lord Cecil insisted with great earnestness that the issue in Abyssinia is the maintenance of the collective system, which affords a security that no armaments can give. Our interests cannot be more directly affected than by this attack upon the collective system which Italy has deliberately launched. He advised the application of oil sanctions whatever the attitude of America. To this Lord Mottistone replied that the Italo-Abyssinian dispute is the worst possible test case for the League of Nations, and he described the attitude adopted towards Italy by the public opinion voiced by Lord Cecil as sanctionious humbug. He urged the Government to drop sanctions at once, as they would be doomed to drop them in the near

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future. The League should be employed as a conciliatory not a coercive organisation. Lord Lloyd also criticised the Government. They have never spoken with a united voice either on sanctions or on the collective security system, and they have promised more than they are capable of performing. Italy is not the only breaker of treaties, and has much of the right on her side.

SPAIN

In Catalonia, popular government has been completely re-established by a decree of the Governor-General, Señor Moles, restoring to office the mayors and councillors of 503 Catalonian cities who were deposed by military order in the rebellion of October 1934. Although quiet is reported over Spain, Spanish refugees are already arriving at Gibraltar, including two ex-Ministers and several aristocrats.

A REVOLUTION IN PARAGUAY

In Paraguay the Liberal Government of President Ayala has been overthrown, and the Military Revolutionary Government to-day proclaimed Colonel Don Rafael Franco as provisional President. Dr. Ayala has forwarded his resignation by wireless from the gunboat *Paraguay*, in which he and General Estigarribia, who was Commander-in-Chief in the Chaco War, took refuge last night. Colonel Franco, who is regarded as a national hero on account of his exploits in the Chaco War, is expected to return immediately from Buenos Aires, where he retired after being exiled early this month on a charge of Communist activities.

Wednesday 19

THE BRITISH INDUSTRIES FAIR

The British Industries Fair, newly opened at Olympia, in the White City, was visited by the King, who passed along the stands asking many questions.

ITALIAN PROPAGANDA

The *Giornale d'Italia* publishes a long summary of a confidential report presented to the British Foreign Office last June by an Inter-Departmental Committee on the probable results to Great Britain of an Italian occupation of Abyssinia. Apparently the publication of the report is intended to discredit the policy of the British Foreign Office, but in fact it shows that Britain has no such vital interest in Abyssinia as would have influenced her in opposing an Italian conquest, thereby demon-

strating that the British support of the Covenant is disinterested. That a private Foreign Office document should have come into the hands of an Italian newspaper excites the curious.

SPAIN: UNEASY TIMES

In Spain the Cabinet has resigned and a new ministry is formed under Señor Azaña. Fantastic rumours keep the temper of the Socialist Youth organisations at red heat. At the military aerodrome at Cuatro Vientos, outside Madrid, two subalterns were put under arrest. Whereupon an alarm was raised that a military coup is afoot, led by General Franco, Chief of the General Staff, and General Goded, an Army Inspector. Both the Home Office and the Chief of Police deny that there is any foundation for these accusations against such distinguished officers who have the confidence of the Government.

BRUNO HAUPTMANN

Hauptmann was re-sentenced to-day by Mr. Justice Trenchard for the murder of the infant son of Colonel and Mrs. Lindbergh. He is to die in the electric chair some time in the week beginning 29 March. This is the third time that Mr. Trenchard has sentenced Hauptmann.

Thursday 20

"THINGS TO COME"

Mr. H. G. Wells's film *Things to Come*, which has so long been in preparation by London Films, was publicly shown to-night. It is in two parts; the first realistic, showing the devastation of Everytown by modern war, and the unending chaos that follows interminable war; the second, the ideal world of the future (as Mr. Wells would have it), whose enlightened inhabitants live in a perfected machine age.

Friday 21

THE PEPPER CASE

After a nine-days' trial the Pepper Case is ended. Bishirgian and Howeson are sentenced to twelve months' in the second division, and Hardy to nine months, on which *The Times* comments that the case has revealed two distinct offences against society. One of them is not now an offence against the law, but the method was clearly shown in court, and the exposure should be a public warning. The defendants had been engaged in a speculation with the object of cornering pepper. Their procedure was to buy very large quantities of this commodity "forward"; that is to say, they purchased a title to

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consignments of pepper before it was shipped, or even grown, with the intention of ultimately selling it at a high price. This in itself is the mere routine of commerce. But these three men did not rely for the enhancement of the price on supplying the consumer with pepper of an unusually high quality, or in specially convenient form, nor on intelligent foresight of an exceptional public need, like Joseph in Egypt; in fact, they did not, in return for their profit, intend to render to the community any service at all. Instead, they proposed to secure so large a part of the whole supply of pepper in the world as to create an artificial scarcity, the threat to maintain which would enable them to dictate their own price. Such proceedings may clearly do more public mischief, if applied to commodities more essential than pepper, than the offences with which the three men were actually charged.

Sunday 23

HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY

The University of Oxford, in common with other British Universities, will not send a representative to the celebration of the 550th anniversary of the University of Heidelberg. This matter has for some time been the subject of acute controversy amongst academics, many of whom feel that this is an effective protest against the expulsion of German professors and teachers because they are Jews or critics of the Government.

Monday 24

MADRID

Three revolutionary leaders have now been set free from prison and are received with great enthusiasm at Madrid, which is in carnival. So far seven churches, mostly in villages, have been set on fire.

THE NURSING-HOME MURDER

At Nottingham Assizes the trial of Dorothea Waddingham and Ronald Joseph Sullivan was opened. They are charged with the murder of Miss Louisa Baguley, who died in a home conducted by the accused. Miss Baguley was an invalid, and almost helpless. She had to be looked after, and her mother, who was eighty-seven, was no longer able to do anything for her. The two women were therefore sent to the home run by Nurse Waddingham. After a time Nurse Waddingham said that the fee of £3 a week for the two invalids was insufficient, and it was suggested that Miss Baguley's property should be made over to Nurse Waddingham on the consideration that she

kept her as long as she lived. Her mother, Mrs. Baguley, died in May 1935. On 10 September last Miss Baguley died. Nurse Waddingham produced a paper purporting to be a request from the dead woman that her body should be cremated. A post-mortem was held, and 2.5 grains of morphine were found in the organs. The body of Mrs. Baguley was then exhumed and traces of morphine were found in her body also.

Tuesday 25

SABOTAGE IN THE NAVY

A case of sabotage in the destroyer *Velox* at Chatham has been reported; this is the fourth case of suspected sabotage in royal dockyards since December.

Wednesday 26

MURDERS IN TOKYO

Young officers and men belonging to the Tokyo garrison have carried out a demonstration similar to that of May 1932, but on a larger and bloodier scale. They have killed Admiral Okada, the Prime Minister, Admiral Viscount Saito, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, and General Jotaro Watanabe, Director-General of Military Education, and attempted to assassinate Count Makino, the late Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal. Mr. Takahashi, Minister of Finance, and Admiral Suzuki, Lord-Chamberlain, were wounded.

The rebels left their barracks during the night, and surrounded the Prime Minister's residence. Except that traffic was diverted, the city's normal life went on. While the main body carried out these operations, small parties went to the houses of the statesmen who had been selected as victims, roused them out of bed, and shot them down.

The streets to-night are busy, but orderly. Theatres are closed, but neon lights are shining brightly. Many officials have gone home, believing that the city will soon be normal again.

The tension was relieved when it became known that the Palace was guarded by loyal troops. Statesmen began to arrive and were admitted. During the day the Cabinet, the Privy Council, and members of the Supreme Military Council met. At 5 p.m. it was announced that Mr. Goto, Home Minister, had been appointed acting Prime Minister. Towards evening growing confidence spread in official and business circles, for it was thought that, in spite of its elaborate preparations and ruthless execution, the affair is but an enlarged edition of the 1932 affair. The young officers had not made preparations to take over the Government themselves, and are not directed by leaders of any

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rank or standing. The official world was taken by surprise, for it was believed that the unrest in the Army was diminishing. Persons with access to the fullest information are confident that the Army as a whole is not affected.

THE NURSING-HOME MURDER

On the third day of the trial of Dorothea Waddingham and Ronald Joseph Sullivan, Sullivan was found not guilty by order of Mr. Justice Goddard, and discharged.

Thursday 27

PARLIAMENT AND THE DEFENCE SERVICES

In the House of Commons the Prime Minister announced the Government's intention regarding the co-ordination of the defence services. He said that while he himself will retain the chairmanship of the Committee of Imperial Defence and of the Defence Policy set up last July, another Minister will be appointed Deputy Chairman, with special duties.

THE FRANCO-SOVIET PACT

The Franco-Soviet Pact was ratified by a free vote of the Chamber of Deputies after five days' debate. The result of the division was: for the pact, 353; against, 164.

THE TITHE

The Government intend to introduce as soon as possible legislation to abolish tithe-rent charge, as recommended by the recent Royal Commission. The tithe-payer will be granted a substantial reduction in his liability, which will be extinguished in sixty years instead of seventy-six. The tithe-owner will be compensated for the loss of income by having his future income guaranteed by the State. The Exchequer will pledge its credit for the payment of principal and interest on a new Tithe Redemption Stock, and in return will assume the powers required for collecting the annuities.

NURSE WADDINGHAM GUILTY

The jury found Nurse Waddingham guilty but added a strong plea for mercy. She was condemned to death.

Friday 28

ABYSSINIA

The Italians in Abyssinia have captured the mountain of Amba Alaji, the last of the great natural obstacles barring the road to the south.

Sunday 1 March

THE KING

In the morning the King, as Colonel-in-Chief of the Welsh Guards, attended the regiment's Coming of Age at the St. David's Day service at All Hallows, Barking-by-the-Tower. After the service he took the salute in the march past, and later handed to each officer a leek emblem.

In the afternoon the King went to Broadcasting House to broadcast a message to the Empire. He spoke first of King George, his father, and of the personal loss felt by all at his death, and thanked the people of the world for their sympathy. Lastly he spoke of himself:

"It now falls upon me to succeed him and to carry on his work. I am better known to most of you as the Prince of Wales—as a man who, during the war and since, has had the opportunity of getting to know the people of nearly every country of the world, under all conditions and circumstances. And, although I now speak to you as the King, I am still that same man who has had that experience and whose constant effort it will be to continue to promote the well-being of his fellow-men. May the future bring peace and understanding throughout the world, prosperity and happiness to the British people, and may we be worthy of the heritage which is ours."

SPAIN: LEFT-WING DEMONSTRATIONS

Yesterday the Left Front held large demonstrations in Madrid, and, in spite of the bitter weather, 60,000 people gathered in the Bull Ring. Many revolutionary leaders were present, including President Companys of Catalonia. Dolores Ibarruri, the woman Communist deputy, known as La Pasionaria, made a violent oration that a thorough cleansing of the administrative department of enemies of the Republic was necessary; they were living in a revolutionary period; they should not be stopped by so-called legal considerations; the people made the law and they demand the execution of their assassins.

When the meeting was over, thousands marched to the Puerta del Sol to convey resolutions to the Ministry of the Interior. Traffic was held up, and there were several scuffles when the demonstrators shouted to those sitting in the cafés to rise and return the Communist salute of the clenched fist.

To-day there was an even larger demonstration which marched past the Presidency of the Council, where Señor Azaña and members of the Government watched from the

I *March*

balcony. The first banner to halt was red, emblazoned with the sickle and hammer and an inscription calling for amnesty and the head of Señor Gil Robles.

All employees dismissed for political strikes have been reinstated and employers ordered to readmit workers, who also have the right to claim an indemnity with up to six months' wages for the time they were out of employment. Señor Companys, who a week ago was a prisoner serving a sentence of thirty years for military rebellion, has returned to Barcelona as President of Catalonia.

TOKYO

All the rebellious troops surrendered without bloodshed yesterday. The non-commissioned officers and men were disarmed and sent to barracks under guard. The officers have been dismissed from the service by Cabinet order. It is now known that Admiral Okada, the Prime Minister, is still alive. The War Office announced his death and marines removed a corpse from his house. But in the afternoon he appeared at the Palace and was received by the Emperor. The assassins had killed his brother-in-law, Colonel Matsui, who was staying in his house. Admiral Okada was hidden by his servants and escaped. Captain Nonaka, the leader of the mutiny, has committed suicide.

Lieutenant Aoshima, of the Imperial Guards, and his wife committed hara-kiri as an example of how a warrior should die. Lieutenant Aoshima had been on duty on Friday with the Government troops. Next day his body and that of his wife were found in a room which had been placed in perfect order and decorated with fresh flowers. He was in full uniform, and his wife wore a pure white silk mourning kimono. He had slashed his abdomen, inflicting a mortal wound, and she had severed her carotid artery. In a letter addressed to his brother, Lieutenant Aoshima said:

"Though Lieutenant-General Kashii repeated his fatherly advice, the insurgents showed no sign of bringing the matter to an end and dying honourably by their own will. Having committed grave acts, what excuse have they for living? To set an example and to show how a warrior should die, I now draw my sword."

Mrs. Aoshima, who had been married only a few months, addressed her parents as follows:

"I thank you for the many kindnesses shown me for so long. The day has come when I must act as a soldier's wife should. I am filled with regret to cause you sorrow. Forgive me."

2-3 *March*

Monday 2

ABYSSINIA: the ITALIAN VICTORY

The Italian victory is complete. The second Battle of Tembien begun on 27 February has ended in the entire defeat of the armies of Ras Kassa and Ras Seyyum. Marshal Badoglio reports that the Abyssinians have suffered such a defeat that they have lost all readiness to fight. Many Abyssinians abandon their weapons to mingle with the country folk, declaring that they never took up arms. Two Italian corps captured the important position of Amba Tzellere, which dominates the whole of the Andino Plain. The centre of the defensive system of Ras Kassa's forces was the high mountain of Amba Warkamba, which towards the south falls sheer for nearly a thousand feet. Picked men of the Alpini and Black-shirts, armed only with a rifle, a dagger, and a bomb, climbed up the edge of the unguarded rock-face and took the Abyssinians by surprise.

THE GERMAN NAVAL PROPOSAL

The German Government has proposed, through Prince Otto von Bismarck, Councillor of the German Embassy, that a new bilateral treaty between Germany and Great Britain shall be negotiated to cover the same ground as any agreement that may be concluded by the Powers taking part in the Naval Conference.

GENEVA

On the initiative of M. Flandin, a fresh attempt is being made to renew efforts to make peace between Italy and Abyssinia.

NEW YORK

In New York the lift men are on strike and the Mayor, Mr. La Guardia, has proclaimed a state of emergency.

PUBLIC TELEVISION IN GERMANY

In Germany, public television by telephone is established between Berlin and Leipzig, and two public offices have been opened in each town, where the speakers can see the image of each other.

THE RUXTON MURDER

The trial is begun at the Manchester Assizes of Dr. Buck Ruxton, who is charged with the murder of his wife and Mary Rogerson, nursemaid to his three children.

Tuesday 3

DEFENCE

A White Paper setting forth the Government's rearmament programme is published. "We have really no alternative," it

3 March

states, "in the present state of the world but to review our defences and to provide the necessary means both of safeguarding ourselves against aggression and of playing our part in the enforcement by common action of international obligations." Two new capital ships are to be laid down, existing battleships to be modernised, five new cruisers to be added, and the personnel increased by 6,000 men. In the Army there are to be four new infantry battalions. Armament is to be modernised and reserves of ammunition and stores collected. The equipment and training of the Territorial Army is to be expedited. The Royal Air Force is to have 250 machines added to the previous programme of 1,500 first line aircraft for home defence, with twelve more squadrons for the defence of strategic air routes in the Empire.

"SOUTH RIDING"

Miss Winifred Holtby's last novel, called *South Riding*, has been published. It was her most ambitious and perhaps best work. It is the story of the work of a North Country county council and its struggles against ignorance, poverty, sickness, and madness, and shows her interest in women as educational and social workers. The characters are varied and vigorous, giving rise to dramatic situations, and, though there is tragedy in the book, it is not depressing because it has a high seriousness and a sense of spiritual values that last when other things change.

BRITISH LIFEBOATS

During the six winter months the lifeboats have put out to sea 283 times, and saved 387 lives. There have not been so many calls in the lifeboat service since the war winter of 1915-16.

SIR JAMES BARRIE'S NEW PLAY POSTPONED

The production of Sir James Barrie's new play, *The Boy David*, written for Miss Elisabeth Bergner, has been indefinitely postponed. It was originally to have been produced on 15 February, but Miss Bergner was then engaged with the film version of *As You Like It*. Yesterday Miss Bergner underwent an operation for acute appendicitis.

GERMAN ARTISTS PUNISHED

A list is published of twenty-five authors, journalists, artists, and others deprived of their German nationality and of their property. They include Arnold Zweig, the author of *The Case*

of *Sergeant Grischa*, and Paul Bekker, formerly superintendent of the State Theatre at Wiesbaden. The general complaint against them is that by adopting an attitude incompatible with their duty and loyalty to the people and the Reich they have damaged the German nation. Nine of them are described as Jews or of Jewish descent, all have a Communist or Marxist past, and all have found it expedient to fly abroad.

Thursday 5

JEW-BAITING

In the House of Commons, Mr. Morrison drew attention to attacks on Jews in the East End of London. Sir John Simon replied that in this country we were not prepared to tolerate any form of Jew-baiting. He did not believe that there was any widespread feeling against Jews, but in certain quarters of London where Jews congregated there is a movement which is potentially very dangerous.

THE KING AT CLYDESIDE

The King spent a busy day on the Clyde. He inspected the new Cunard White Star liner *Queen Mary*, now at last completed, and afterwards made a tour of inspection of the housing scheme and visited several families living in overcrowded conditions in the Anderston district of Glasgow.

ABYSSINIA: THE BRITISH AMBULANCE BOMBED

The British Ambulance Unit at Alamata has been bombed by an Italian aeroplane and three patients killed. The Abyssinians say that no less than forty high explosive bombs fell on the ambulance unit, and the operating-tents, where the doctors were caring for the wounded, were completely destroyed. The Italians say that the aeroplane had sighted an Abyssinian camp with a column of twenty motor vehicles from which cases were being unloaded. On the centre of the column the Red Cross emblem was displayed. As the pilot flew low he was received with violent anti-aircraft fire. On the following day the objective was therefore bombed, and as black smoke arose the Italians' belief that it was an ammunition dump was thereby confirmed.

Major G. A. Burgoyne, who was in charge of an Ethiopian Red Cross unit, has been killed. He was aged sixty-one, a versatile soldier and sportsman, who served in the South African War and the Great War.

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Friday 6

THE COST OF DEFENCE

The estimates for defence are now published, showing the total of nearly £537,000,000. This is more than last year by £46,566,690.

AN UNDERGRADUATE STRIKE AT OXFORD

Undergraduates of Pembroke College, Oxford, have protested against the quality of the food served to them by a one-night strike.

Saturday 7

THE GERMANS OCCUPY THE RHINELAND

There is great excitement and anxiety because Herr Hitler has denounced the Rhine Treaty of Locarno. German troops are marching into the Rhineland in token of the restoration of the full and unrestricted sovereignty of the Reichstag over the demilitarised zone. This action Herr Hitler justifies on the ground that the Treaty of Locarno has been violated by the Franco-Soviet Pact of mutual assistance.

The news of the coming of the soldiers was received with great enthusiasm in the garrison towns. Every house and building was covered with flags. At Cologne the people rushed out of their houses to greet the first German troops to enter the city for eighteen years.

At the same time Herr Hitler delivered a speech to the Reichstag, which was suddenly summoned. He said that in the last three years he has repeatedly endeavoured, and unfortunately too often in vain, to erect a bridge of understanding with the French people. Those who once faced one another as bitter opponents honour each other to-day as brave soldiers in a great struggle of the past, and regard each other as the champions and maintainers of a great and common cultural inheritance. The agreement between France and Russia is incompatible with the Locarno Pact. Soviet Russia is the exponent, organised into a State, of revolutionary philosophy. Its political creed is a confession of faith in the world revolution. It cannot be foreseen whether this philosophy will not be successful to-morrow or the next day in France too. Should this happen, then the new Bolshevist State would be a section of the Bolshevist International, and its headquarters would be no longer in Paris, but in Moscow. In conclusion, he said that in the three years that he had been leading the German people their position had been improved in all fields of their national, political, and economic life. Germany had won back her honour, recovered her faith, overcome the most pressing economic

difficulties, and begun a new cultural advance. He appealed to the people for their support, especially in his fight for genuine peace.

A memorandum has also been handed to the Ambassadors of Great Britain, France, and Belgium, the signatories of the Treaty of Locarno with Germany, in which the German Government declare that they are willing to negotiate with France and Belgium for a bilateral demilitarised zone and to conclude a non-aggression pact between Germany, France, and Belgium for twenty-five years, which England and Italy shall sign as guarantor Powers. Further, the German Government is prepared to conclude an air pact to prevent the danger of sudden attacks from the air; to conclude with countries bordering Germany on the east non-aggression pacts; and finally, with the achievement of Germany's equality of rights and the restoration of full sovereignty in the whole territory of the German Reich, Germany is prepared to re-enter the League of Nations. At the same time she expects that in course of a reasonable space of time the problem of colonial equality of rights, as well as of the separation of the League Covenant from its Versailles Treaty basis, will be clarified in the course of friendly negotiations.

A GREAT FIRE IN LONDON

The worst dock fire in London since 1932 broke out at Surrey Commercial Dock, Rotherhithe, in a six-storey warehouse, packed on every floor with plywood, paper, and other inflammable goods. Again and again the firemen, perilously perched on water-towers, found themselves surrounded by flames, and once or twice the only way for their comrades to save them from death was to turn hoses on the apparatus on which they were standing until they could be moved. Three hundred firemen, with sixty-one engines and seven water-towers, were engaged, as well as two large fire-floats.

THE CHINESE EXHIBITION

The International Exhibition of Chinese Art at the Royal Academy closed to-day. During the run of fourteen weeks, 422,048 persons have visited it.

SIR OSWALD MOSLEY

Sir Oswald Mosley has written to Sir John Simon asking him to make clear certain passages in his statement in the House of Commons on Jews and Fascists.

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"If you mean to imply," he writes, "that it is illegal to incite

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others to commit acts of violence, no one will dispute you. If you mean to imply that it is illegal in public speech to attack Jews or the conduct of Jews in Britain, I strongly dispute it as introducing an entirely new principle to British Government and law. We have as much right to attack Jews as members of the Labour Party have the right to attack anyone who possesses capital, to say nothing of their advocacy of class war. We have far more right to attack Jews than Communists and some members of the Labour Party have the right to attack the Crown.

"You appeared to suggest in your speech that Jews were the only people in this country immune from criticism or from attack in public speech. If you did not mean to suggest that, it is only proper that the matter should be made clear."

Sunday 8

M. SARRAUT'S BROADCAST

M. Sarraut, the French Prime Minister, broadcast a statement to the French people in reply to the German action. He said that the German people, having violated their engagements, offer to contract fresh ones.

"I shall not consider these proposals, for two reasons. First, because the double example given us by the German Government, within the space of a year, of the unilateral repudiation of solemn engagements can give us no confidence in their new proposals. The second reason is even more obvious. In contempt of the most established law, the German Government sent important forces into the demilitarised zone, and that without having previously announced their intention of overriding their obligations, and even without having sought to enter into negotiations on the subject. We have been confronted with the *fait accompli* in its most brutal form.

"There can be no peace in Europe, no more international relations, if these methods become general. In opposing them we are serving the cause of the European community. The French Government, for their part, are firmly resolved not to negotiate under threats. The very fact that, in contempt of solemn engagements, German soldiers are now stationed on the banks of the Rhine, forbids all negotiations for the moment."

Monday 9

MR. EDEN ON BRITISH POLICY

In the House of Commons Mr. Eden, after summarising the communications which he had received from the German Government, declared that the course taken by the German

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Government in unilaterally rejecting obligations into which they had freely entered and in simultaneously acting as if they did not exist both complicates and aggravates the international situation. There could be no one in this country who would wish to condone or excuse such a step. It strikes a severe blow at that principle of sanctity of treaties which underlies the whole structure of international relations. It must be obvious to all that in existing circumstances the transition from a bad past to a better future will be an arduous and hazardous enterprise. One of the main foundations of the peace of Western Europe has been cut away, and if peace is to be secured there is a manifest duty to rebuild. In that spirit we must approach the new proposals of the German Chancellor.

DISORDERS IN SPAIN

Seven people have been killed and fifteen badly wounded in clashes between extremists and conservatives and police in the last twenty-four hours at Toledo, Palencia, and Bilbao. At Cadiz, four churches and a number of convents and schools were set on fire or sacked, furniture and statues being thrown into the streets. The Civil Governor appears to have taken no steps to defend ecclesiastical property or schools.

A GERMAN SPY SENTENCED

After four days' trial, Dr. Hermann Goertz, a German lawyer and novelist, was found guilty at the Central Criminal Court of offence under the Official Secrets Act, and sentenced to four years' penal servitude. He was charged with making a sketch of the Manston Royal Air Force station.

Tuesday 10

HERR HITLER'S MOTIVES

The Times correspondent, commenting on the German coup, says that for some time Dr. Schacht and other moderates have been pressing the *Führer* to resume contact with the Western Powers. That way they saw financial and economic salvation for Germany, whose attempt to create recovery and finance rearmament by a continuous expansion of Government credit has foreseeable limits. On the other side was the Party, insisting that the *Führer* should not capitulate to Dr. Schacht, and restless because the Socialist part of the programme had not yet been begun. No one is prepared to say with any degree of certainty what the floating debt now amounts to, or that the limit of expansion has yet been reached. It is certain, however,

that there are serious difficulties in the way of funding it, and a deadlock between the Party and Dr. Schacht as to the form of the new taxation which must be levied if Germany is to begin the process of bringing income and expenditure into line.

Herr Hitler, it may be assumed, let a situation boil up, and then handled it with his customary decision. Since the international bankers were in Berlin, Dr. Schacht, having discovered their misgivings about the path Germany was treading internally and externally, is said to have increased his pressure. At any rate, inspired articles appeared in the Press suggesting conditions on which Germany might agree to re-enter the collective system, and the writers, it may be recalled, were not prepared to be satisfied with the restoration of sovereignty in the Rhineland. Dr. Goebbels, on the other hand, who may be regarded as the exponent of the radical school of thought, declared only ten days ago that Germany preferred to rely on her armed forces rather than on the League to keep the peace she so ardently desired.

Last week events moved rapidly. On Monday, according to stories current in Berlin, there was a meeting in the Chancery. The *Führer*, Dr. Goebbels, Herr von Ribbentrop, General von Blomberg, General Göring, and Admiral Raeder were present, but not, it is understood, Baron von Neurath, Dr. Schacht, or General Fritsch, the Commander-in-Chief of the Army. The decision was taken, so the story goes, to re-occupy the Rhineland and hold a meeting of the Reichstag on 13 March, by which time it was expected that the Franco-Soviet Pact would have been ratified. On the following day, it is said, Dr. Schacht protested, and offered his resignation.

The moral aspect of the violation of Locarno does not seem to have entered into consideration. "In the question of its fundamental rights," says the *D.A.Z.* to-day, "no nation recognises any other judge than itself"; and it is a sentiment heard in Germany. That is not a very satisfactory philosophy for Germany's neighbours, but it is to be kept in mind that this régime is the product of danger, starvation, inflation, and the greatest economic depression in history—of, in fact, years of hand-to-mouth living, in which masses of the general public had little inclination to worry about the means so long as it served the end. As in the present action of their Government, they have been unable, thanks to the controlled Press, to grasp completely the implications or possible consequences, and it

was difficult for the more moderate circles of the régime, in particular the Army, to resist action which, by restoring military sovereignty in the Rhineland, met what was with them a point of honour.

All this may suggest to foreign countries great care in dealing with Germany. The temper of the people is peaceful: the military leaders know well that German policy must be to avoid a war for many years to come. The Nazis have made what even their opponents would call heroic efforts to restore Germany's position in the world and the moral of the people, and at the same time her prosperity. But the uncertainties of the internal situation tempt into adventures men who are already adventurous by nature. In dealing with the present situation it will be necessary to insist on the principle that treaties are not made to be broken whenever one party thereto finds it inexpedient. That is fundamental if a new system of peace in the West is to be built up. It will certainly be necessary also to get adequate guarantees against a repetition of any such incident, and to handle the situation in such a way as to strengthen the hands of the more moderate among Herr Hitler's advisers.

THE B.B.C. ENDEAVOUR TO BROADCAST A GHOST

Dean Manor, near Rochester, in Kent, is known to those who have lived there as haunted by muffled footsteps and tappings, a cellar door which opens suddenly, and cold, uncanny winds. The B.B.C. hoped that the ghost might be persuaded to betray itself. Four microphones and various booby-traps (otherwise known as scientific controls) were set, but listeners at midnight heard nothing more than the crackling usual in their loud-speakers. Only the thermometer fluctuated inexplicably.

POISONOUS SARDINES

About three weeks ago 9,900 tins of sardines were condemned in London. Some of the tins had been burst open with putrefaction; others had been punctured to let out the gas and then re-soldered. The firm supplying the 9,900 tins of sardines which were condemned as unfit for human food in London have now been fined £2,000 by the Portuguese Fish Board and prohibited from trading for two years.

Wednesday 11

THE DEATH OF LORD BEATTY

Admiral of the Fleet Earl Beatty, Commander of the Grand Fleet at the end of the Great War, died in London early this

morning. He had been ill for some time. His career as a naval officer was unique. Promoted to commander after only six years' service as a lieutenant, and to captain after only two years as a commander, in each case as a reward for gallant service in the face of an enemy far from the sea, he reached the flag rank at the age of thirty-eight, credited with only four years in command of ships out of the six years which was the minimum to qualify for ordinary promotion. He had no taste for the drudgery of ordinary service afloat in time of peace, and, being possessed of ample means, he was in a position to refuse the minor flag appointment which was first offered to him. At that time he was regarded by those in authority as a spoilt child of fortune, gallant beyond a doubt, but lucky in his opportunities, and with neither the sea experience nor the single-hearted devotion to the Navy necessary to fit him for flag command afloat. But for the accident of Mr. Churchill's recognition of his mettle and abilities he would probably have been relegated to the retired list before the outbreak of the war.

The war brought him into his own, turning to full advantage that capacity for instant assessment and acceptance of risks, that superb physical courage and coolness under fire, which were the essentials of his make-up. These were the qualities which converted the action of Heligoland Bight from a British reverse into a British success. They would have made a major success of the Dogger Bank action but for two chances--the partial disablement of the flagship at the crucial moment, and the frustration of the commander's desire to use Nelson's favourite battle signal, "Engage the enemy more closely." It had been omitted from the signal book at the last revision. At the Battle of Jutland even the sudden destruction of two out of his five battle-cruisers left him unshaken. Remarking to his flag-captain, the present First Sea Lord, that there seemed to be something wrong with his ships that day, he continued the close action in which his remaining ships were by then more than holding their own. No wonder that the officers and men of his command knew him for a great leader. It was his habit, after the first few days of war, to remain on the open bridge when going into action. Nor was it mere bravado that kept him from the protection of the conning-tower, but the knowledge, born of experience, that he could not control the course of an action if his view of it were constricted. His mind and spirit were exhilarated rather than hampered by danger, and the

lower deck responded instantly to the intrepidity of the Admiral. Their feelings for him could have been summed up in Admiral Pakenham's reverent whisper, "Nelson is come again."

Thursday 12

GERMANY AND THE LOCARNO PACT

Representatives of the Locarno Pact (Germany excepted), hastily summoned, began their discussion on Herr Hitler's repudiation of the Treaty in Paris last Tuesday. They re-assembled this afternoon at the Foreign Office in London. They have issued a statement declaring that a clear violation of the Treaty of Locarno has been committed, and established a committee to meet again. Mr. Eden has informed the German Ambassador, Herr von Hoesch, that the British Government take a grave view of the present situation, and suggest that to illustrate the sincerity of their desires the German Government should withdraw all but a symbolic number of troops from the Rhineland zone, not increase the number, and undertake not to fortify the zone for the present. To-day the Ambassador replied, on instruction from Herr Hitler, that the German Government cannot enter into such a discussion, but that the restriction of the military occupation during the present negotiations will be observed, assuming that a similar attitude is preserved by France and Belgium.

THE GERMAN EXPLANATION

The German Government has issued an official statement on its case for the reoccupation of the Rhineland. France, it says, had before the Locarno Pact made military alliances with Belgium, with Czechoslovakia, and with Poland. As these were defensive, they were not regarded as incompatible with the Treaty of Locarno. Furthermore, since the war France has concentrated on the German frontier a vast number of soldiers, and has constructed the most tremendous defence fortifications ever known. To none of these things did Germany object, but now France has concluded a further military alliance with Soviet Russia, which is not dependent on the League of Nations, but on separate conditions between France and Russia. Before concluding this alliance France had as guarantors for invulnerability herself, with nearly 100,000,000 people in France, and her colonies, Great Britain, Belgium, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and by the Treaty of Locarno, Italy. Yet to this guarantee France thought it necessary to add the aid of Soviet Russia, with 175,000,000 people.

12-13 *March*

A MEMORIAL TO KING GEORGE V

At a meeting at the Mansion House it was proposed by the Archbishop of Canterbury that an Empire Memorial to King George should take the form of a statue and a philanthropical scheme over the whole country.

Friday 13

THE CO-ORDINATION OF DEFENCE

Sir Thomas Inskip, the Attorney-General, has been appointed the new Minister for the Co-ordination of Defence. This appointment comes as a surprise, for his name was not even mentioned amongst the many whom the gossips had already appointed.

DR. RUXTON FOUND GUILTY

On 29 September last year some visitors to Molfat, on the main road from Lancaster to Edinburgh, noticed a parcel at the bottom of a ravine from which protruded a human leg. The matter being reported to the police, search was made, and other portions of two female bodies, dismembered and disfigured, were in the next few days collected. Some days later Dr. Buck Ruxton was arrested in Lancaster and charged with the murder of his wife and Mary Rogerson, nurse to their three children. Dr. Ruxton originally met his wife at Edinburgh when he was a medical student. She was then married to a Dutchman. They eloped together, and in 1930 the doctor, who was an Indian named Gabriel Hakim, bought a practice in Lancaster and changed his name by deed-poll to Buck Ruxton. Their life was not very happy, for both were temperamental. It appears that after a violent quarrel Ruxton strangled his wife, and Mary Rogerson caught him in the act. Ruxton thereupon killed her too. Being thus faced with two bodies and great quantities of blood, Ruxton dismembered the corpses in the bath to conceal all traces of their identity and drained the blood away down the waste-pipe. In the next few days he endeavoured to destroy every vestige of the crime. He then took the remains away in his car and strewed them in lonely spots in Scotland. He has been in custody for the last eleven weeks.

A CAMBRIDGE WAGER

Mr. J. A. L. Timpson, an undergraduate of Trinity College, won a wager that he would walk from Cambridge to London and back—a distance of 106 miles—in under twenty-four hours. He reached Trinity Gate at three minutes past one, twenty-

three hours after he had left it. As he touched the gate he was handed the cheque which was part of the wager.

FLOATING PROPAGANDA

At Mährisch-Ostrau, on the Czechoslovak-German frontier, hundreds of bottles were seen floating down the Oder towards Germany. One of them, being opened, was found to contain packets of little leaflets printed on the thinnest paper with the inscription "For Germany—against Hitler," and an appeal to the German workers not to go to the polling-stations, or to make the voting-papers invalid. When the German authorities learned of this flotilla, detachments of S.S. (Nazi Guards) were sent down the river in boats to intercept the bottles.

Sunday 15

GERMANY AND THE LEAGUE

The Council of the League of Nations, at a secret meeting, yesterday decided to invite the German Government as a contracting party to the Treaty of Locarno to take part in the present discussions. The German Government accepted on condition that their representatives shall be on a footing of equality with the other Powers, and that the Powers concerned are prepared forthwith to enter into negotiation on the German peace proposals.

Last night Herr Hitler addressed a great meeting at Munich and made several references to the present international problems. "I go my way," he said, "with the assurance of a somnambulist, the way which Providence has sent me. I have tried to see territorial problems in a reasonable light and to leave the colonial problem to be settled by reason, in the conviction that reason will finally make itself heard. Many people come to me now and say, 'Herr Hitler, why do you not make a great gesture?' They talk of gestures! But I have done something which is worth a thousand gestures. I have put forward a scheme which will ensure the peace of Europe for the next twenty-five years by giving security to France, Belgium, and Holland."

THE UNIVERSITY SPORTS

Cambridge beat Oxford in the University Sports at the White City by eight events to three. A. G. K. Brown won the quarter-mile in 49½ seconds, which is the second fastest time for this race ever recorded.

16 March

Monday 16

GERMANY AND THE LEAGUE

The Council of the League sat in secret to consider the reply of the German Government, and agreed to Germany's first condition. There was much argument about the second condition, especially over the word "forthwith," which is a translation of the German word *alsbald* in the original message. It is now said that the word *alsbald* should rather be translated as "in due course" than "forthwith."

THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

The committee set up in 1935 to report on the British Broadcasting Corporation has recommended that the Charter shall be continued for a further ten years. There are no sensational criticisms or suggestions, for the committee approved in general the policy of the Corporation. They recommend to the consideration of wireless manufacturers the production of a standardised receiving set at a low price.

THE FUNERAL OF LORD BEATTY

Admiral of the Fleet Lord Beatty was buried in the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral, the King being represented by the Duke of York, who walked in the procession with the Duke of Kent from the Admiralty. In St. Paul's Cathedral the Archbishop of Canterbury gave an address.

"It is fitting," he said, "that the bodies of Jellicoe and Beatty should now and henceforth lie side by side within the peace of the great cathedral. There is no need of critical comparison. Each had the qualities most needed for the place he had to fill in the great contest. They were one in their devotion to the Navy which they loved, and to the country which they served. They lie together under the shadow of the tomb of Nelson—all three, with the other sailors whose memorials surround them, in death, as in life, a band of brothers.

"What of the man himself? We cannot think that a spirit so ardent, so vital, has been extinguished by the episode of death. Rather here in God's house let us assure ourselves that he is in the hands of God. 'There shall never be one lost good.' All earthly stains cleansed, all earthly failings pardoned, his great gifts, disciplined and perfected, will surely still be used by God Who gave them for some high service in that other country where God unhindered reigns. To the everlasting Mercy and Love his grateful countrymen commend this gallant soul."

17-18 March

Tuesday 17

GERMANY AND THE LEAGUE

The German Government have agreed to send a representative without delay to London.

SPAIN

Normal conditions are returning, though there is still much violence on the outskirts of Madrid. The members of a tramway company seized the rolling-stock and are working the business under a committee of their own. The agrarian reforms department is distributing land in haste; several thousand settlements have been made in a few days, and 50,000 holdings are promised shortly. In the meantime the peasants are invading property on their own initiative. At Jumilla there has been bloodshed. Two Fascists were ambushed after a dance, and one was killed. The civil guards turned out and arrested two presumed Fascists, but the villagers tore the prisoners from their custody, stabbed them to death, and assaulted the civil guards, who defended themselves. The mob then attacked a landowner, who was set upon in his house and killed.

THE AIR ESTIMATES

In a debate on the Air Estimates, Sir Philip Sassoon said that the expansion of the Air Force was being governed by three principles: (1) fighting strength fully manned and adequate to deter aggression; (2) reserves of men and machines; and (3) efficient industry in the background. He assured the House that, as things stand, the present programme fulfils these requirements. The personnel required has been increased from 22,500 to 25,000, and, out of 2,500 new pilots, 1,700 have already been obtained. As for machines, a new type of fighter, capable of over 300 m.p.h.—the fastest service machine in the world—is being put into production. There will be no profiteering. The departmental system of controlling prices has been strengthened. In civil flying, private owners have increased by 111 to a total of 589, and there are now 1,535 civil aircraft in the country.

Wednesday 18

M. VENIZELOS

M. Venizelos died in Paris at the age of seventy-two, of whom *The Times* says: "Venizelos never trod the middle way. The career which ended in Paris yesterday was made up of a series of violent alternations between triumph and disaster without parallel even in Plutarch's pages. A rebel in his youth against

18 March

the Sultan, against Prince George, and at last the chief of the Provisional Government that rose against King Constantine, and eight times constitutional Prime Minister of Greece; twice a proscrip't 'on his keeping' in the Cretan mountains, to become, five years after his second proscription, the *Deus ex machina* who rescued Greece from ineffectual confusion; organiser of the unexpected victories of 1912 and 1913, and founder of the brief and unsubstantial edifice of an Ionian Empire; by turns the champion of Greek Liberal democracy, and the dictator who, for the good of Greece and the principles of Liberalism, spurred her unwilling people into the Great War; the deadly enemy of the Turk who became the architect of the Greco-Turkish understanding; the arbiter, as it seemed, of the destinies of the Near East at Versailles, and within the year an exile ostracised by the fickle multitude; defeated by ill health and demagogic hostility, in 1924 to return like Odysseus and overthrow the rival suitors of the Republican Penelope; and finally the rebel again, back in Crete, attacking the Greek Constitution which he had moulded—could Themistocles or Alcibiades themselves boast of a more varied political career?

"There were occasions when the accuracy of his prevision was amazing, when political instinct and reason inspired him to interpret the emotions and desires of the Greek people with perfect accuracy; when the Cretan, indeed, represented Greece. But his judgment was not always infallible, and at times he lacked patience and moderation. He was a democrat, but the autocrat was never far below the skin. He was a sturdy Constitutionalist eleven months of the year, but during the twelfth he would be toying with schemes for a dictatorship. These conflicting traits were continually pulling at him and his policy. To his credit, when he was the chosen leader of Greece it was generally the democrat and the Constitutionalist who won in the inner conflict; but when at last the democrat gave in—when, only a year ago, he threw in his lot with the dissatisfied naval and military officers, and attempted to direct from Crete the violent overthrow of the Constitution he himself had moulded in Athens—then his disaster was complete. It was his greatest error. The old man of seventy tried to recapture the wild dreams of the youth of seventeen. The revolt was quickly suppressed. Venizelos fled from Crete, never to see it or Greece again.

"Exile was a sad ending to so great a career. During the year which has passed since his revolt and downfall, passions have cooled in Greece; the restoration of the monarchy has given the

people a clearer hope of unity than was possible before; and now even those who were his political enemies admit that, though Venizelos's mistakes were great, his enduring achievements are greater. The Prime Minister truly stated yesterday that 'he was the greatest statesman and the greatest political man of contemporary Greece.' Under his leadership Greece grew from a petty and disordered State to be for a time one of the chief minor Powers of Europe. Now, under the monarchy against which Venizelos struggled so long, she is the stronger for the lessons he taught her."

A MEAN FRAUD

Three men were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment for frauds on housewives. They used to visit houses and tell the housewives that if they bought some tea they would get a large prize in money. By this promise women were induced to buy large quantities of tea which they not only did not want, but did not get. In one case a woman parted with £525 for tea. In sentencing the prisoners the judge said, "Too much publicity cannot be given to this case, in the hope that housewives in London and the Home Counties and elsewhere will profit by the fate that befell these ladies who fell into the hands of these men. How this fraud could flourish as it did is a tribute to the canvasser's vocabulary, and also a severe censure on the gullibility of housekeepers and women sometimes with very small means."

Thursday 19

THE LOCARNO POWERS

The Locarno Committee of Four, representing France, Italy, Belgium, and Great Britain, met again yesterday in London from 12.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m., and at 10 p.m. they reassembled and continued their discussions until 2 o'clock this morning. The French say that, subject to acceptance and confirmation by both sides, it was agreed that an appeal shall be made to the Hague Court in a decision as to the compatibility of the Franco-Soviet Pact with the Locarno Treaty. A demilitarised zone shall be set up only in the German zone, and this shall be policed by international forces. Consultations between the British and French General Staffs shall be held to provide provisional British guarantees for security for France. The French delegates are disappointed at the course of the discussions. M. Paul-Boncour complained that the British, instead of adhering strictly to the duties of a Locarno guarantor, are continually assuming the role of mediator.

19-20 *March*

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

The Council of the League of Nations met twice in the morning. Herr von Ribbentrop gave a full statement of the German case. He expanded the German view that the Franco-Soviet Pact is incompatible with the Locarno Treaty, and that, since the Treaty has been violated by the unilateral action of France, it is thus in fact ended. He dealt very briefly with the French point that Germany should have appealed to the Hague Court, arguing that a purely judicial body cannot deal with a question that is political as well as legal. He then asked the Council to take into account Herr Hitler's peace proposals, as these and the restoration of German sovereignty represented one political unit. The German people have only one desire—to live in peace with their neighbours.

THE MAGINOT LINE

During the last few anxious days the "Maginot Line" has been manned by French troops. This great defence-work, which stretches the whole length of the French frontier, is now fully completed. It is so fully equipped that it contains not only a labyrinth of shelters and gun-emplacements served by light railways, but is provided also with barracks, hospitals, and kitchens. In many sectors row upon row of steel rails have been driven into the ground, leaving exposed a jagged length to form a belt over which no tank could pass. Everything has been done to make the whole line as impregnable as is humanly possible. The last few days have shown, however, that one thing was forgotten. No preparations have been made to keep the troops amused.

Friday 20

GERMANY AND LOCARNO

The proposals of the British, French, and Italian Governments for a general European agreement, and plans for temporary arrangements until the general settlement is worked out, are issued. Germany is invited to submit her case against the Franco-Soviet Pact to the Hague Court, and to agree to accept its decision. Pending negotiation, she is invited not to increase her troops in the Rhineland in order to build fortifications. Further, an international force of the armies of the United Kingdom and Italy should be temporarily stationed in a zone twenty kilometres deep on the German side of the Franco-German and Belgian-German frontiers. Should Germany refuse these proposals, then the representatives of Great Britain

and of Italy have informed the representatives of France and Belgium that they will at once consider the steps to be taken, and will establish contact between the general staffs of each country.

GREAT FLOODS IN AMERICA

There are again great floods in America this year. More than 150 have been drowned and 200,000 are homeless. The damage to property is estimated at over £10,000,000.

Sunday 22

ABYSSINIA: THE ITALIANS USE GAS

Jijiga, the next objective of the Italians, has been heavily bombed. Nineteen aeroplanes circled for an hour over the town dropping incendiary bombs, and many houses were damaged or destroyed. The Italians are using gas bombs throughout the northern front, and against civil populations of the towns. The Abyssinians can take no precautions against this kind of attack, and the Emperor himself is appalled by the effects of gas-bombing on his soldiers.

A FASCIST MEETING

Sir Oswald Mosley addressed a crowded meeting at the Albert Hall, and for nearly two hours spoke on the constructive policy of British Fascism for dealing with the situation in Europe. The police made elaborate preparations. No traffic was allowed within half a mile of the Albert Hall while the meeting was in progress, and even pedestrians had to produce tickets of admission. The Albert Hall itself was surrounded with a cordon of police while the meeting was taking place. Several attempts were made by large bodies to break through this cordon, and at times mounted police used their batons.

Sir Oswald entered the hall to a fanfare of trumpets and the roll of drums. He accused the Government of having brought the country to the brink of a war for which they had left it defenceless, and he appealed for friendship with Germany and Italy and urged that Japan should be allowed to invade Northern China if the Japanese agreed not to swamp British markets with cheap goods. To Germany he would give back British mandated colonies so long as British air routes were allowed to remain, and then he went on to speak in support of Italy's case in Abyssinia, and after that to make a violent attack on the Jews. Up to two or three years ago, he said, there was no feeling of anti-Semitism in England. Now it was the intention of British Fascism to challenge and break for ever the power of the Jews in Britain.

22-24 March

Speeches were constantly interrupted and objectors were violently carried away with their feet in the air.

Monday 23

THE DEATH OF MR. OSCAR ASCHE

Mr. Oscar Asche, actor, manager and producer, died to-day. He was most famous for *Chu Chin Chow*, which he wrote and produced during the war; a play full of colour, magnificence, and music, that made men forget mud for a while. It ran longer than any other play in the English theatre, being played 2,238 times.

Tuesday 24

VICE-ADMIRAL HENRY BOYLE SOMERVILLE MURDERED

Vice-Admiral Henry Boyle Somerville was murdered at his home in County Cork. Admiral Somerville was alone with his wife at the time, the servants having gone to an entertainment in the village hall. Four armed men arrived in a motor-car and ran into the house. One of them drew a revolver and shot the Admiral dead. All then made off. He was murdered because he had helped some young man in the neighbourhood to join the Royal Navy. The murderers left behind them a paper which read: "This English agent has sent fifty-two Irishmen to the English Forces during the last seven weeks."

PALESTINE DEBATED

In the House of Commons, Colonel Wedgwood raised the question of the Government's proposals to grant a constitution to Palestine. He spoke of the outlawing of the Jews in many countries of the world, and said that success had followed the magnificent experiment and immense effort made under British administration in Palestine. This success will be jeopardised if we hand over the control of the country to people who do not want the Jews there at all. If we surrender our responsibility, it will be the end for ever of the last hope of the Jewish race. The proposed Legislative Council will be an Arab Legislative Council. This scheme will ruin any chances of developing Palestine in the future, as it has been developed in the past under British justice and Jewish capital. Mr. Crossley said that the Palestinians had been settled in the country for about 1,400 years. We are now tied by the Mandate, but if we could have foreseen what has happened in the last few years we could never have embarked on it. It is a contradiction in terms, because in a small country we cannot make a national home for

a great world-people, without prejudice to the rights of the existing inhabitants. Sir Archibald Sinclair criticised the Government's proposals for hampering Jewish enterprise. When Mr. Thomas essayed to defend the proposal, he was much interrupted.

THE "QUEEN MARY"

The great liner the *Queen Mary* left the builders' fitting-out basin at Clydebank to-day, and for the first time was seen upon the water. She passed down the Clyde under her own power, attended by seven tugs, and at length, between banks thick with cheering crowds, reached the open water. Work upon the ship was first started in 1930, and stopped in the financial crisis of 1931; she was then known as No. 534. She was launched by Queen Mary in September 1934. The *Queen Mary* is the largest British ship yet built, and to many a symbol of reviving hope for British shipbuilding. Her gross tonnage is 80,773.

THE GERMAN PROPOSALS

Herr von Ribbentrop has returned to London with an answer to the proposals put forward by Great Britain, France, Italy, and Belgium. It repeats the arguments justifying the sending of troops to the Rhineland as an answer to the Franco-Soviet Pact, and claims that lasting agreements can only be concluded in an atmosphere of sympathetic recognition of the equal rights of all nations. Germany desires to make an important contribution to peace, but economic conferences will be vain until there is unconditional and lasting security. This security can only be provided by a firm peace guaranteed for a long period, and the German Government lay more value on this peace as the basis for the revival of prosperity than on any economic conference. The German Government are now making final preparations for their elections, which will prevent them from presenting new proposals until 31 March.

Wednesday 25

A NAVAL TREATY SIGNED

The new Naval Treaty between Great Britain and other members of the British Commonwealth, the United States, and France was signed at the final plenary session of the Naval Conference: in its results much humbler than was expected when the conference first met. The treaty defines and sets out the limits deputed for each category of ships of war.

CHINA AND JAPAN

There is considerable anxiety for the safety of British missionaries belonging to the China Inland Mission who are cut

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off by the Red invasion of Shansi. There are eight British adults and their children in Hungtung, and nine adults and six children in Pingyang. The British Embassy in Peking gave warning to these missionaries on 3 March, but they remained at their posts.

Mr. Hirota, the new Prime Minister of Japan, declared to foreign correspondents that his pledge that there would be no war while he was Foreign Minister would hold good while he was Prime Minister. The Cabinet's policy was unchanged, but they would expedite the settlement of questions which had been too long delayed. Its primary aim was the adjustment of Japan's relations with China, Manchukuo, and Russia, but the Government did not propose hasty action either at home or abroad.

Thursday 26

BRITISH POLICY

Mr. Eden in the House of Commons spoke on British policy. He began by expressing the Government's sincere thanks to all parties and to the members for their restraint during an anxious period. "We must distinguish," he said, "between what may be national sentiment and what are, for good or ill, our national obligations. Likely enough there may be many people in this country who say to themselves now, 'In our judgment the territories of France and Germany should be treated on exactly equal terms.' It may be that people feel that. But those are not the terms of the Treaty of Locarno. Those are not the terms of the treaty of which we are guarantors, and the treaty which has formed the main element in the security of Western Europe for the last ten years. If I put the matter in this way, it is because I believe there is a special responsibility on this country at this time, and I want to begin to try to place matters in their true perspective by giving the House a brief account of the origins of this demilitarised zone, for I do not believe that they are generally appreciated.

"If Germany wished," said he, "as she was clearly entitled to wish, to modify any part of this treaty, negotiations were open to her. Germany has claimed—as she has from her own point of view every right to claim if she believes it to be true—that the Franco-Soviet Pact is inconsistent with the Locarno Treaty, but I would draw the attention of the House in that connection to Article 3 of the Locarno Treaty, which specifically provides for such a contingency. Under that article, Germany and Belgium, and Germany and France, undertake to settle by peaceful means, and in the manner laid down

therein, all questions of every kind which may arise between them."

Later he said: "At this stage I want to say one word to those who would argue that it is our duty at this time to keep free from all entanglements in Europe. With respect, I wonder whether those who say that are quite clear what they mean. If they mean we must turn a blind eye to all that happens in Europe, I say that is to take no account of realities at all. We have never been able, in all our history, to dissociate ourselves from events in the Low Countries: neither in the time of Queen Elizabeth, nor in the time of Marlborough—nor in the time of Napoleon; still less at the present day, when modern developments of science have brought striking force so much nearer to our shores. . . . These issues," he concluded, "far transcend the ordinary limitations of party politics. When the whole future of our civilisation may be at stake, who cares about party labels? I would ask for the continuance of that support which has been so generously extended to me in the last few weeks, and I would ask it because I believe that the purpose for which I am working, with however many errors and through however many discussions, is one which is shared by the great majority of the men and women of this country—to maintain peace, to strengthen the League, to uphold the sanctity of treaties; above all to seek without respite to fashion from the troubled present a future which may be freed from the haunting fears that shadow our time."

Friday 27

THE "QUEEN MARY"

The *Queen Mary* entered the King George V Graving Dock at Southampton this afternoon without a hitch. Her whole journey from Greenock has been most successful, and Sir Edgar Britten, the captain, declares that she is the finest ship to handle he has ever been in.

THE GRAND NATIONAL

The Grand National was run to-day, the first three horses being Reynoldstown, Ego, and Bachelor Prince. Only seven of the thirty-five horses finished the course. Golden Miller, the favourite, fell over the first fence, and then considerably stopped for his jockey to remount.

Sunday 29

THE GENERAL ELECTION IN GERMANY

The General Election in Germany for the Reichstag shows nearly 99 per cent of the voters supporting Herr Hitler's policy

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of freedom and peace, which he describes as a unique and mighty victory.

ABYSSINIA

Thirty-seven aeroplanes attacked Harar, and by evening half the town was in flames. Amongst the buildings destroyed were the Coptic Cathedral, the Catholic Church, the French Consular Agency, the French hospital, the wireless station and prison, and much of the French Catholic Mission. Fifteen bombs struck the Egyptian Red Crescent Hospital, and the Ethiopian Red Cross was hit many times.

Monday 30

BORING FOR OIL NEAR PORTSMOUTH

The first test-well to bore for oil was begun at Portsdown Hill, above Portsmouth, where a site of five acres had been set aside for this experiment. At this spot geologists hope that certain rocks of the wealden and pre-wealden age will be found so folded that they form a reservoir into which petroleum is caught in large quantities.

A BAGPIPER'S HOME MUSIC

The bagpipes have recently been occupying the attention of Birkenhead magistrates. Mr. F. A. E. Allan of Greasby was summoned by his next-door neighbour and two other neighbours, who alleged that his playing of the bagpipes constitutes an unreasonable, unnecessary, and excessive noise, injurious to health and capable of being mitigated. After two adjournments the parties reached an agreement on the limitation of time for playing—thirty minutes a day—but not the room in which the pipes should be played. One of the plaintiffs suggested a box-room over the hall as a suitable place, but the defendant replied that it would be cold in winter. The prosecution retorted that he put so much energy into the playing of his pipes that he was unlikely to feel it.

Tuesday 31

HERR VON RIBBENTROP

Herr von Ribbentrop, the *Führer's* Ambassador-at-Large, has returned to London by aeroplane. He was delayed by head winds, and telephoned to Mr. Eden to postpone their meeting till the next day. He is believed to have with him two documents—one relating to the interim period and replying to the London draft proposals, the other elaborating in greater detail Herr Hitler's peace proposals of 7 March. There have been many rumours that the Cabinet is split on the question of the talks

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between the British, French, and Belgian General Staffs; but these are declared to be fantastic and unfounded.

A HOME FOR THE ASSYRIANS

At the Mansion House the Archbishop of Canterbury has launched an appeal for a fund to settle at least 21,000 Assyrians on the western bank of the Upper Orontes, to which the Governments of Great Britain and Iraq, the French Mandatory Territory of the Levant, and the League of Nations have contributed. The Lord Mayor, who presided, said that the Assyrians faithfully served the Allied cause during the war, and later were loyal to the British Government: he thought, therefore, they would be loyal and faithful subjects of Syria in their new homeland.

THE ZEPPELIN "HINDENBURG"

Germany's latest Zeppelin, No. LZ 129, now called the *Hindenburg*, started on her first commercial voyage from Friedrichshafen. Official permission to fly over French territory being refused, she laid course across Holland, down the English Channel, and via the Bay of Biscay to Spain, whence she took the normal German airship route to South America. She was sighted clearly, shining in the sun, from the south coast, and by a British air-liner which flew alongside and wirelessly messages of greeting.

FALSE ALARMS ON THE CZECH BORDER

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Wednesday 1 April

GERMANY AND LOCARNO

The German reply to the Locarno Peace Proposals was handed to Mr. Eden by Herr von Ribbentrop to-day. It first refers to the mandate received by the German Government to represent the Reich and the nation: in their determination to preserve in all circumstances their freedom, independence, and equality of status; and in their sincere desire to co-operate in a

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between the British, French, and Belgian General Staffs; but these are declared to be fantastic and unfounded.

A HOME FOR THE ASSYRIANS

At the Mansion House the Archbishop of Canterbury has launched an appeal for a fund to settle at least 21,000 Assyrians on the western bank of the Upper Orontes, to which the Governments of Great Britain and Iraq, the French Mandatory Territory of the Levant, and the League of Nations have contributed. The Lord Mayor, who presided, said that the Assyrians faithfully served the Allied cause during the war, and later were loyal to the British Government: he thought, therefore, they would be loyal and faithful subjects of Syria in their new homeland.

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general reconciliation and understanding between the European nations.

The reply then repeats Germany's previous declarations concerning the Locarno Pact, and emphasises that Germany does not ever intend to attack France or Belgium. With France's colossal armaments and the enormous fortresses on her eastern frontier, such an attack would be senseless from the military point of view alone. From this point of view also the desire of the French Government for immediate General Staff discussions is incomprehensible to the German Government.

It is suggested that the task facing the statesmen of Europe is divisible into three periods: a period for gradually calming the tension and elucidating the procedure for the coming negotiations; a period for the actual negotiations for securing the peace of Europe; a later period for dealing with those desirable supplements to the work of peace which might include disarmament and economic questions.

The first of the three periods is given a limit of four months. This period of standstill is to be observed on both sides of the Rhine frontier and guaranteed by a neutral commission. Negotiations should then be started immediately for a twenty-five-years' non-aggression security pact between Germany and France and Belgium.

Finally, having no faith in attempts at universal settlements, the German Government propose that conferences should be convened in the future with one clearly defined objective for each.

Thursday 2

THE SITUATION IN SPAIN

The Times Madrid correspondent observes that in the weeks that have passed since the General Election the Left Front, especially in its extreme wing, has maintained its ascendancy, and appears supremely elated with the prospect. A university professor recently expressed the opinion that it is only a matter of weeks for the Azaña Cabinet to be overwhelmed by the tempest of Marxism. The Labour masses both in town and country, more closely united than ever, have been reinforced by the 30,000 prisoners, the greater part of them district, union, or Communist cell ringleaders, set free by the amnesty. Amongst them are a number of qualified desperadoes. Another phase worth recording is the rise of minor officials of many categories living at the expense of the State administration of the provinces, municipalities, or great companies, such as the railways. These people really fear revolution, but they yap on

its fringe. They will accept any régime that keeps them their jobs. A Socialist State breeds these people. Remembering 1931, it will only be necessary now, as then, for the police to refuse to "go against the people" and the Army to remain momentarily quiescent for a nation that went to bed under one régime to wake up under another once more. A monarchy fifteen centuries old vanished in a night. Would a Republic five years old offer greater resistance? In the major sense it is tragic that the Republic, heralded as a régime of tolerance for all, has divided Spain more bitterly than ever, and is allowing social discipline to slacken. To re-establish respect for authority before it is too late, and to retrieve the country from irreconcilable rivalries, is the great problem awaiting statesmanship which the Cortes in session must work out.

ABYSSINIA

Italy has accepted the invitation of Señor de Madariaga, Chairman of the Committee of Thirteen, to put herself into direct relations with him, which encourages a belief that Signor Mussolini is ready to enter upon peace negotiations.

THE KING AND HIS PEOPLE

At Buckingham Palace the King received addresses from a number of public bodies, each expressing sympathy and condolence on the death of King George, and congratulations to King Edward on his accession. At the end of the ceremony, which lasted two hours, the King thanked the representatives for their expressions of sympathy and loyalty, to which he had prepared and signed an individual reply. He then spoke of King George's unceasing desire to work for the good of the people. "It happens," he said, "that I should succeed him in this task, and I recognise the responsibilities as well as the opportunities which lie before me. As Prince of Wales I bore a device with an ancient motto: 'I serve.' As King I shall hold this in constant remembrance, for a King can perform no higher function than that of service."

He added: "May the bonds of affection between King and people remain as firm as they were in my father's reign, and I pray that the blessing of God may rest upon us all."

INVISIBLE RAY FOR TRAFFIC

Hundreds of children cheered as the Minister of Transport, Mr. Hore-Belisha, inaugurated new traffic signals which have been installed in St. Helier Avenue, Morden, on the Sutton

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by-pass road. This system, which is worked by a photo-electric ray, is the first of its kind in the world, and treats vehicles and pedestrians impartially.

A MARRIAGE OF MONKEYS

At Surat a pair of monkeys were ceremonially married with all the ritual of a Hindu wedding, conducted by a *sadhu* "in response to inspiration." The male monkey is supposed to be a descendant of the monkey-god Hanuman. Both monkeys wore costly costumes, and sat in a decorated motor-car as they were driven through the streets, which were lined by thousands of people.

Friday 3

ABYSSINIA: ITALIAN VICTORIES

The wireless service between Addis Ababa and Northern General Headquarters continues to function normally, though an Italian *communiqué* announces a great Italian victory at Mai Chio. It is now certain that not only part of Ras Kassa's, but also part of Ras Seyyum's army took part in the fighting, besides the Emperor's troops. Both Rasas established contact with the Emperor last month, but there is a large gap on the Emperor's left flank which it is the duty of these two commanders to protect. If they fail, the Emperor himself stands in danger of being surrounded, as he is unwilling to retire. Asphyxiating gas has caused the great gaps in his line. In the next few weeks Ethiopia will either lose the war or by unique efforts postpone its end. The Emperor's army is now completely without medical aid, all Red Cross work having been made impossible by the Italian Air Force.

DR. ECKENER UNDER A BAN

Dr. Eckener, the airship constructor and builder of the new Zeppelin *Hindenburg*, has fallen foul of the Propaganda Ministry. Apparently his offence is that last week he thought that the new Zeppelin *Hindenburg* would have been better employed in technical preparations for its first flight to South America than in accompanying the *Graf Zeppelin* in an election tour of Germany dropping leaflets and toy balloons. Presumably he said what he thought. It is also said that he disagreed with the authorities about the name of the airship. In some quarters it was suggested that it should be given the name *Adolf Hitler*, but Dr. Eckener protested that to give the airship the name *Adolf Hitler* would not be good for business in the United States. When the airship appeared in the sky, the name *Hindenburg* was painted on her bow. There had been no naming

ceremony. As a result, the Propaganda Ministry has forbidden the Press to mention his name.

THE EXECUTION OF BRUNO RICHARD HAUPTMANN

Bruno Richard Hauptmann was executed at Trenton, New Jersey, at 8.47 to-night for the murder of the infant son of Colonel and Mrs. Lindbergh on March 1, 1932. Hauptmann was first sentenced to death by Judge Trenchard in the Assize Court at Flemington, New Jersey, on 13 February, 1935. He made repeated appeals: for a reprieve, a life sentence, a writ of *habeas corpus*. In a last desperate effort to prevent her husband's execution, Mrs. Hauptmann at 5 p.m. to-night formally charged Paul Wendel with having kidnapped the Lindbergh baby. Wendel was arrested. He confessed to the kidnapping, then retracted.

Saturday 4

THE KING AT OXFORD

The King, accompanied by two friends, was motoring through Oxford in the afternoon, and stopped at Magdalen College. As the college is now in vacation, the President and Fellows were not in residence, but His Majesty was received by the under-porter. He took his friends round the college, pointing out places of interest, including the staircase where his old rooms were, and took several photographs.

THE ZEPPELIN "HINDENBURG"

The Zeppelin *Hindenburg* reached Rio de Janeiro at dawn after an uneventful maiden crossing of the Atlantic. On entering the new airship shed she met with a slight mishap—a steel mooring-rope snapped—but this is not expected to delay her return flight. Dr. Eckener, the designer, declares himself entirely ignorant of the whole affair of his disgrace. This is not surprising, as instructions not to mention him in connection with the first transatlantic journey of the airship were not given till he had left Germany. The German Press in Berlin is dutifully ignoring his presence at Rio.

THE BOAT RACE

Cambridge won the Boat Race for the forty-seventh time. Oxford won the toss and chose the Surrey station. For the first two miles they rowed nobly in the rough water and were leading, but Cambridge, a heavier and more experienced crew, pulled ahead and won easily by five lengths. The time was 21 minutes 6 seconds.

5-6 April

Sunday 5

ABYSSINIA

The Italians claim to have turned the retirement of the Emperor's troops after the battle of Lake Ashangi into a desperate flight towards the south. All the available aeroplanes, including those from the base at Massawa, have been bombing the Abyssinians, and sixty-four tons of explosive are said to have been dropped during the last two days. Marshal Badoglio declares that the defeat of the Abyssinians is of such proportions that it allows him to conceive and realise the most daring plans.

SPAIN

The municipal elections have been deferred *sine die*. This decision has caused great relief to those who feared that factionist rivalries would turn the *fiesta* of Easter Sunday into a day of mourning. During Holy Week the Cortes will discuss the prerogative of the President of the Republic under Article 81 of the Constitution, which states that a President may dissolve the Cortes twice, and that the first act of the third Cortes shall be to examine the reason for the dissolution of its predecessor. Should the majority of the House vote unfavourably, the President must resign. Señor Alcalá Zamora has twice dissolved the Cortes, but there seems little chance of the Cortes censuring his motives because the Republicans and Left Group have been demanding this dissolution for some time, and it has led to their electoral victory.

THE BESIEGED MISSIONARIES SAFE

The Shansi authorities officially announce that Government troops have relieved Hungtung and Pingyang, and that all the missionaries are safe. There are still 4,000 Communists in the Hungtung area, but the back of the invasion has been broken.

Monday 6

EMPLOYMENT FIGURES

A new high record of employment was reached in March. The number of persons in employment rose to 10,630,000, an increase of 411,000 on the March total of last year. The improvement is seen in all the administrative divisions except South Wales. The building industry has made a particularly rapid advance, but increased activity is general in the iron and steel, the engineering, and other metal industries, as well as the seasonal spring industries.

6-7 April

ABYSSINIA

With Kworam well inside their lines, the Italian troops continue to advance southwards in pursuit of the fleeing Abyssinians. Dessie is now about 100 miles away, and it is expected that the invaders will be called upon to do little fighting on their way there. While Marshal Badoglio reports that his troops continue to advance, pursuing the remnants of the Emperor's army, the Emperor himself emphatically denies that he is defeated, and declares that the fight against Italian aggression will continue until the last invader is driven out. He is confident in the League and in the principle of collective security, and assured that the members of the League, recognising the justice of the Ethiopian cause, will demand the immediate application of this principle.

A TORNADO IN THE UNITED STATES

A great tornado swept across the south-eastern States of America, doing enormous damage. More than 400 bodies have been recovered and at least 2,000 people have been injured.

MR. KIPLING'S ESTATE

Mr. Rudyard Kipling left estate of the gross value of £155,228. He left his house and land at Burwash to his wife.

Tuesday 7

SPAIN

By 238 votes to 5 the Cortes to-night adopted a Socialist motion censuring Señor Alcalá Zamora for having ordered the dissolution of the late Cortes on 7 January, and in consequence the President is dismissed from office. The Frente Popular voted solidly for the motion; the Confederation of Parties for the Right, the Catalan Lliga, and the Radicals abstained; the Centre voted against.

The President, when approached by the Deputy-Speaker at his residence, did not feel obliged to receive a message at that hour. The Deputy-Speaker then returned to the House, and issued a *procès-verbal* to the effect that the President had refused to receive him. In accordance with the Constitution, the Speaker, Señor Martínez Barrio, was sworn in as temporary President. While some praise the resolute manner in which a personage distasteful to the Left has been disposed of, others regret that greater caution has not been exercised in dealing with a problem involving the prerogative and prestige of the

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highest figure in the State. Señor Gil Robles declared that the only point to be discussed was whether the President had interpreted national opinion in dissolving the Cortes. The result of the elections, Señor Robles believed, had amply justified the President's action.

THE NAZIS AND THE BIBLE

Reich Bishop Müller, the nominal head of the German Protestant Church, has written a Germanised version of the Sermon on the Mount. All references to the Jewish Old Testament are omitted, every possible reference is made to blood, comradeship, honour, and *Volksgemeinschaft*, and it complies with the Nazi desire to adapt the Bible to the peculiar spiritual needs of Nordic man. In this new version the verses in St. Matthew's Gospel, chap. v, appear thus:

"Happy is he who always acts as a good comrade. He will get on in the world.

"Happy are they who keep the peace with their *Volksgenossen* (fellow-nationals): they do God's will.

"Happy are they who live and work honourably and faithfully, who yet find themselves persecuted and defamed—they have the fellowship of God.

"You carry it in your blood and your fathers have taught it to you:

"One single deed of genuine, comradely understanding is worth more in God's eyes than any matter-of-fact church-going.

"If your comrade in excitement strikes you in the face, it is not always right immediately to strike him in return. It is more manly to maintain a quiet bearing. Probably your comrade will then feel ashamed."

An excellent sermon, but hardly an accurate rendering.

Wednesday 8

THE COMMITTEE OF THIRTEEN AT GENEVA

The prospects of further conciliatory action in the Italo-Abyssinian War and the charge that poison gas was being used by the Italian troops were discussed at the meeting of the Committee of Thirteen which took place at Geneva. Mr. Eden said: "We must have an immediate cessation of hostilities and negotiation within the framework of the League and in the spirit of the Covenant. We must have the result during the next few days, while we are still at Geneva."

Referring to the use of gas, he said: "We must remember that both parties signed the Geneva Protocol of 1925. This

prohibits absolutely the use of gas. Both parties pledged themselves not to use gas in any form of circumstances. The employment by the Italian airmen of poison gas raises the question whether any international conventions are of any value whatsoever."

It was decided that the Chairman, Señor de Madariaga, and the Secretary-General of the League, should get into touch with representatives of Italy and Abyssinia to obtain a clear indication whether there was any hope that Italy might agree to open negotiations: 14 April should be the time-limit for their reply.

The discussion on poison gas was confused, for the competence of the committee was called into question. It was therefore finally decided to appoint a small committee of jurists to deal with the subject, as it was felt that further investigation was necessary.

ITALIAN AIMS IN ETHIOPIA

Presiding over a meeting of the Italian Cabinet, Signor Mussolini declared that the security of the Italian colonies, which had been the prime objective of the Abyssinian War, "will be fully reached with the total annihilation of the Abyssinian military formation, an annihilation which can neither fail to be achieved, nor be far off." The Italian people, he observed, continue to offer to the world a spectacle of Roman tenacity and discipline.

Thursday 9

THE KING DISTRIBUTES MAUNDY

The King went to Westminster Abbey to distribute the Royal Maundy in person. Till our day no English sovereign since James II distributed Maundy with his own hands, but the custom that had lapsed after 1685 was in 1932 once again observed by King George V. King Edward, by taking part in the ceremony himself, thus offers a fresh sign of his sympathy with the most necessitous among the people. The King, in morning clothes and black overcoat, was dressed as plainly as the old men and women before him. Rich apparel was the prerogative of the clergy. Hymns were accompanied by the string band of the Royal Horse Guards, sitting in a corner of the nave. After the distribution of the Maundy and the prayers, the Old Hundredth was sung, the Dean gave the blessing, and after a roll of drums came the National Anthem. In these last few minutes the sun had for the first time penetrated the high windows of Henry VII's Chapel behind the altar. The King

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walked to the west door in procession, as he had come, and out into full sunshine.

Friday 10

THE LOCARNO POWERS AT GENEVA

After their meeting at Geneva the Locarno Powers (other than Germany) issued an official statement. They agree to test all opportunities of conciliation, and the British representatives will communicate with the German Government in order to elucidate certain points of the German proposals. It is noted that Germany has not made her indispensable contribution to the restoration of confidence. France reserves all her rights against material changes in the Rhineland zone. The French plan and the German proposals will be presented to the League Council. The Committee of Thirteen has adjourned till 16 April, when its Chairman will report again on his efforts to bring Italy into negotiation with Abyssinia. Mr. Eden declares that, unless hostilities cease very soon, the Committee of Eighteen (for sanctions) will have to be convened.

The Committee of Thirteen discussed the question of poison gas. The committee of jurists had discovered that existing conventions were all based on an assumption of human decency, and did not provide for non-observance. They had also reached the conclusion that the Council of the League was competent to deal with violations, and could delegate its power to such of its organs as it thought fit. They were then asked to make clear what organ of the League was competent in the matter of information as to the application of conventions on the conduct of warfare in the present case. Here the discussion became involved in such a maze of legal phrasology that Mr. Eden intervened to propose that an appeal should be addressed to both parties that they should not employ poison gas. The committee finally agreed to this proposal, and the appeal was drawn up. The Abyssinian representative expressed his surprise that the victim of unjustified aggression should be placed on the same footing as the aggressor. The Italian Government have forwarded a deposition to the Secretary-General alleging the torture of Italian prisoners.

THE LEAGUE AND ETHIOPIA

Strong efforts have been made during the last forty-eight hours to bring about an armistice in Abyssinia, with subsequent negotiations for the settlement of the conflict. Baron Aloisi, however, made it clear from the first that he had come

to Geneva solely for the Locarno Powers' discussions, and that he had no instructions from his Government to negotiate for the cessation of hostilities in Abyssinia. He expressed the surprise of Signor Mussolini that the invitation to Señor de Madariaga to go to Rome for an exchange of ideas had not yet been acknowledged. Mr. Mariam, the Abyssinian representative, said that his Government were willing to open negotiations for a settlement within the framework of the League and the spirit of the Covenant. He made two conditions: (1) that Abyssinia would not agree to negotiation with Italy, but that conversations must be presided over by some person specially delegated by the League of Nations; (2) that Italy must state her aims first.

Mr. Edén emphasised that once negotiations were started they must be pushed on without delay.

THE DEATH OF THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR

Herr Leopold von Hoesch, the German Ambassador, died suddenly this morning of heart failure at the German Embassy. He was fifty-five.

THE ZEPPELIN "HINDENBURG"

The Zeppelin *Hindenburg* landed at Friedrichshafen this evening. There was some engine trouble on the return journey. The first of the four engines broke down near Gibraltar, and a second was showing signs of irregular working. The commander therefore requested permission of the French Government to fly over French territory. This was given "in case of danger only."

Sunday 12

A TURKISH NOTE TO THE POWERS

The Turkish Government have addressed a Note to the Governments of the Powers commissioned by the League to apply the rules of the demilitarisation of the Dardanelles. They are prepared to enter into negotiations for a fresh Agreement in the near future for regulating the regime of the straits. It is noted with satisfaction at Geneva that Turkey has refrained from following the example of unilateral denunciation set by Germany and Austria.

Monday 13

THE DEATH OF THE GREEK PREMIER

M. Constantine Demerjis, the Prime Minister and Professor of Civil Law at the University of Athens, died suddenly of syncope at 4.30 this morning.

13-14 April

A MEMORIAL TO CARRIER PIGEONS

A memorial to the carrier pigeons of the French Army killed in action during the war was unveiled at Lille this morning. General Charité, the Chief of the 'Telegraphic Services of the Army, presided. The Mayor of Verdun, which was saved from capture by the use of carrier pigeons, gave an address, the cathedral chimes were broadcast, and carrier pigeons were released before the speeches.

Tuesday 14

SPAIN

In stormy weather Madrid celebrated its national holiday. The Acting President, Señor Martínez Barrio, surrounded by the Government and a brilliant staff, took the salute as the garrison marched past. Several disorders occurred. Some crackers and a crude bomb were dropped behind the saluting base. The horses of the Presidential escort stampeded as the crackers went off under their tails. The President and the Prime Minister remained unmoved, but several of the staff who were nearer to the explosion disappeared from view. An infantry regiment was thrown into some disorder, but the band never ceased to play. The people tried to lynch a man who had been arrested for the outrage. He appeared to be very drunk.

In Andalusia there was bloodshed, several persons being killed in a clash between Marxists and Fascists when a street was being named after Señor Azaña. A magistrate was ambushed and mortally wounded when returning from his club at night.

A BRITISH MISSIONARY RELEASED

Mr. R. A. Bosshardt, the missionary who was captured by Chinese Communists eighteen months ago, walked into Yunnanfu yesterday, having been unconditionally released.

ASTROLOGERS IN CONFERENCE

More than 300 astrologers from all parts of Great Britain are attending a convention at Harrogate, at which various experts have prognosticated the future. One member declared that Signor Mussolini's horoscope is powerful in some respects and "likely to give him a good run for his money." Herr Hitler has a more conciliatory and constructive type of horoscope, and in the end he may contribute something definite towards the cause of European peace. He thinks that a special feature of King Edward's reign will be closer relations between England

and Russia. Other predictions were a peaceful settlement of the European situation, an increase in Russia's power, drastic changes in the Government of Italy, and a harassing time for President Roosevelt.

Wednesday 15

ABYSSINIA

The Italians have taken Dessie without a fight, and the road lies open to Addis Ababa. Only nine days were taken to cover the 120 miles from Kworam to Dessie, where the road is good enough for mechanised columns.

ITALIAN TRADE AND SANCTIONS

The reports of experts show that as a result of sanctions there has been a great falling off in trade between Italy and other countries. The value of imports from Italy to thirty-nine countries dropped from 17,600,000 gold dollars in 1935 to 9,505,000 gold dollars in 1936. British imports from Italy in 1935 were 1,942,400 gold dollars; in 1936, 70,400. Exports to Italy dropped from 2,874,700 dollars to 155,500 dollars.

FUNERAL OF HERR VON HOESCH

The body of the late German Ambassador was escorted to Victoria Station with full military honours, while a battery in Hyde Park fired a salute of nineteen guns. Royal Horse Guards led the procession, and two companies of the First Battalion of the Grenadier Guards, with arms reversed, followed at a slow march. The coffin was borne on a gun-carriage covered with a scarlet flag, with the black swastika on a white ground. As well as the German officials the British Government was represented by Mr. Eden, Sir John Simon, Lord Monsell, and other Ministers, with members of the Diplomatic Corps. A salute of nineteen guns was also fired from Dover Castle when the train arrived, and the body was taken on board H.M.S. *Scout* to be carried to Germany.

UNDERGROUND RAILWAY EXTENSION

Work has begun on the scheme for extending the Bakerloo Tube Railway between Finchley Road and Baker Street, which is estimated to cost £2,000,000.

Thursday 16

TROUBLES IN SPAIN

There have been further disturbances in Madrid. The trouble began at the funeral of a civil guard who was mortally wounded last Tuesday. As the procession was moving along the

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Castallana there was a burst of machine-gun fire. The guards accompanying the body, and other police, ran to the place, which was the upper storey of a house under construction, but no arms were found. At several other points the funeral was sniped.

There are many rumours in Spain, but the censorship prevents accurate news. In the Cortes a vote of confidence in the Government was passed after a two-day debate by 195 votes against 76. Señor Azaña, summing up the debate, once more declares that he is determined to defend public order. Provocation has come from both sides, but the desperate state to which the workers have been reduced must be remembered. Señor Calvo Sotelo, leader of the Monarchists, read out a list of 74 persons dead, 354 persons wounded, 106 churches set on fire (56 of them completely destroyed), and 72 other buildings attacked since the present Government took office. He quoted figures to show the decline in value of Government stock. Spain, he says, has lost heavily through the frightening away of many tourists this spring, though English tourists have been braver than others. He warned the Cabinet of the progress of Red propaganda in the Army, and ended by declaring that the answer to a dictatorship of the proletariat might be a counter-attack to set up a totalitarian State. Señor Llopis, for the Socialists, replied that the Socialists preferred not to burn churches, which might be available for other purposes when they secured power: but, he complained, the Church has taken sides with capitalism, and every confessional, every pulpit, and even the pastoral letters of the bishops, had been used for anti-Republican propaganda during the elections.

NURSE WADDINGHAM HANGED

Dorothea Nancy Waddingham was executed at Winson Green Prison, Birmingham, for the murder of Miss Ada Baguley. Nearly an hour before the time a line of sandwich-men appeared with placards inscribed "Stop this terrible crime of hanging a mother of five children." A little later Mrs. Van der Elst arrived in a limousine, on top of which was a loud-speaker. The police refused to allow her to go on, but later she turned her car, followed by a loud-speaker van, and went round a block of buildings to approach the police station from another point. A gramophone record was placed on a loud-speaker and "Abide with me" and "Nearer my God to Thee" were played. By this time a crowd of two to three thousand people had collected.

17-18 April

Friday 17

GENEVA

At Geneva Baron Aloisi has indicated to the Chairman of the Committee of Thirteen that Italy will only negotiate directly with Ethiopia. She will not agree to stop fighting. So the peace movement started by M. Flandin has ended, for the Committee of Thirteen acknowledge that their efforts to bring the Italians and Abyssinians together have failed.

GENERAL STRIKE IN MADRID

A pacific general strike was declared in Madrid to-day, apparently caused by the workers themselves, for the *Socialista* stated emphatically that there would be no strike. It was ordered by the Syndicalist Union against the agreement which had been reached between the Socialist and Communist leaders. Syndicalist messengers went from street to street appealing to comradeship. There were no disturbances until the evening, when two Communist youths were killed.

FIVE LONDON SCHOOLBOYS DIE IN A BLIZZARD

A party of London schoolboys, from the Strand School, Brixton, touring the Black Forest, have been overcome by a blizzard, and five of them have died. The party left Freiburg intending to ascend the Schauinsland, a hill about 4,200 feet high, which would take about three hours, and to go thence to the Todtnauberg Youth Hostel, which they expected to reach in the evening. They were overtaken by a heavy fall of snow and dense fog, and lost their way. During the next few hours several of the boys collapsed. The villagers from Hofsggrund at once formed search-parties, but it was not until nearly midnight that the last of the boys was brought into the village inn.

Saturday 18

MR. BALDWIN AT WORCESTER

Mr. Baldwin, speaking at Worcester on British aims, said that the rearming of Germany and the attempt to put into force the Covenant have convinced him that an increase in certain branches of arms and the re-equipment of all branches is an absolute necessity. There does not yet seem to be an effective machinery for stopping a war before it begins, if one party is determined to go to war and not to submit to discussion. In the Italian Press our Foreign Secretary is being attacked with a lack of restraint for what is regarded as anti-Italian policy. But it is not anti-Italian policy: its motive is not the defeat or humiliation of Italy, but the support of the Covenant of the League,

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which we wish to become the law of the world. Collective security will never work unless all nations are prepared simultaneously to threaten with sanctions, and to fight, if necessary, an aggressor. If a great European nation, in spite of having its signature to the Geneva Protocol against the use of gas, employs it in Africa, what guarantee have we that it may not be used in Europe?

Monday 20

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

The Council of the League of Nations spent a whole day discussing the Italo-Ethiopian conflict, and late at night passed a resolution regretting that conciliation had failed and that the "war is continuing under conditions which had been declared to be contrary to the Covenant."

ABYSSINIA: ANOTHER ITALIAN VICTORY

The Abyssinians have suffered another great defeat on the Somali front, where the Italians are marching on Harar. They resisted for three days, but their flanks were turned and they were obliged to retreat from their fortified position. The Italians are said to have lost 650 men in the action.

Addis Ababa is now crowded with fugitives fleeing before the Italians advancing from the north.

HERR HITLER'S BIRTHDAY

Herr Hitler's forty-seventh birthday was celebrated with a great military parade in Berlin and other towns in Germany.

Tuesday 21

THE BUDGET

Mr. Neville Chamberlain, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, presented his fifth budget to the House of Commons. The year ends with an unexpected surplus of nearly £3,000,000. He announced an increase in the standard rate of income-tax from 4s. 9d. in the £ to 5s., an increase of £10 in the married persons' allowance, and the children's allowance increased from £50 to £60. The duty on tea is raised from 4d. to 6d. He is determined also to put a stop to various ways of avoiding tax, particularly the transfer of capital, and the educational trusts whereby a parent, by signing a deed, can give part of his income to his child, and then, as guardian of the child, receive the income back again. This practice has greatly grown in the last few months, and many members of Parliament have taken advantage of it.

21-23 April

TURKEY

The British Government have replied to the Turkish Government's request for the reconsideration of the clause in the Lausanne Convention relating to the Dardanelles. They declare that the request for discussion is a valuable proof of the fidelity of the Turkish Government to the principle that international treaties cannot be modified by unilateral action. They are ready to discuss the question in such time and in such manner as may be found convenient to all concerned.

MONGOL LEADERS EXECUTED

Four leading officials of the Mongol province of Manchukuo have been executed on charges of treachery, espionage, and conspiracy with Soviet officials of Siberia. They are General Ling Sheng, Governor of the Province; General Fu Ling, Chief of Staff of the North Hsingan Provincial troops; Mr. Chun Teh, Chief of the Political Bureau of the Province; and General Ling Sheng's secretary. The Manchukuo War Office states that General Ling Sheng and his accomplices were guilty of conspiring for the independence of Manchukuo. The heavy losses suffered in border frays by the Manchukuo-Japanese forces are attributed to secret information supplied by General Ling Sheng to the Outer Mongols and the Soviet Russians.

Thursday 23

BUDGET LEAKAGES

There are many rumours of a leakage of Budget secrets a few days before the Budget was opened. The day before the Budget there was an abnormal rush to insure against the risk of increased tax, and on the day itself the rush was so great that brokers were apparently instructed to pay any amount of premium on any amount of money, so that the rate mounted to forty-five guineas.

A RESCUE IN THE DESERT

Dr. von Stohrer, the German Minister in Cairo, who has been lost in the desert for five days, has been rescued, with his mechanic, by a squadron of the Royal Air Force. Their car broke down on the afternoon of the 19th. They had provisions only for two days, and hope had almost been abandoned.

A CANADIAN MINE RESCUE

After being entombed for more than ten days in a mine in Nova Scotia, where they were cut off, Dr. D. E. Robertson and

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Mr. Alfred Scadding of Toronto were rescued. Their companion, Mr. Hermon R. Magill, was dead. The rescuers descended a condemned shaft at great risk and bored a tunnel three foot square into the mine. So dangerous was this tunnel that at any moment it was likely to cave in.

BOYS' FRIENDSHIP WITH GERMANS

During the present Easter holiday an Anglo-German camp has been opened at Berkhamsted School for sixty boys, thirty English and thirty German. Although named a camp, the boys have actually been housed in the school. They are drawn from public schools, universities, and industry in the same way as those who attend the Duke of York's Camp. A simple daily programme has been followed, starting with physical training before breakfast, then a morning's physical work, and in the afternoon games are organised. Evenings are given over to concerts and informal discussions. The camp has been very popular in Berkhamsted itself, and people of the village have given a hospitable welcome to its members.

Friday 24 THE KING INSPECTS THE COLDSTREAM GUARDS

The King inspected the 1st Battalion of the Coldstream Guards at Windsor. After the parade he visited the sergeants' mess, the married quarters and men's dormitories, and the officers' mess. As he crossed the square he met and recognised two old soldiers, one of whom he recalled having seen at the British Legion service in St. George's Chapel last year.

GERMAN TRANSLATIONS OF SHAKESPEARE

The German Shakespeare Society at its annual session at Weimar delivered its judgment as requested by Dr. Goebbels on the hotly discussed translations of Shakespeare by Herr Hans Rothe. It was decided that the older Schlegel-Tieck translation was unexceptional in those parts which were Schlegel's work, but that the Tieck translation (actually by Ludwig Tieck's daughter, Dorothea, and Count Baudissin) might be improved upon. The Rothe translations did not fulfil requirements. As a result Herr Rothe's translations, which were first published in 1922, will now be banned from the German theatres.

Saturday 25

THE CUP FINAL

The F.A. Cup Final was played at Wembley between the Arsenal and Sheffield United. There were more than 93,000

people to see the Arsenal win by one goal to none. Before the game there was a great controversy between the Wembley authorities and the news-reel companies. No agreement was reached, and all film cameras were banned from the Stadium. Accordingly the news-reel companies took to the air, and shortly before the beginning of the game a covey of auto-giros appeared, under the supervision of Mr. Campbell Black. The gate receipts were £24,857.

THE "HERZOGIN CECILIE" STRANDED

The *Herzogin Cecilie*, one of the finest of the sailing-ships in the grain-carrying trade from Australia to Europe, and which has won the race from Australia eight times, has gone aground near Salcombe, in Devon. Captain Sven Eriksson, her master, came ashore on the breeches buoy, having stayed on board with his officers. Twenty-one members of the crew were rescued by the Salcombe lifeboat. The *Herzogin Cecilie* is the largest sailing-ship on Lloyd's Register. She has a total length of 334 feet, her mainmast is nearly 200 feet high, and she carries a total canvas spread of 56,000 feet. She is lying aground with the sea washing over her bows and with small hope of salvage.

Monday 27

THE BUDGET SECRETS

In the House of Commons Mr. Chamberlain said that he had personally interviewed the Chairman of Lloyd's, and a thorough inquiry is being made. He told the chairman that he desired to have the whole matter sifted to the bottom.

ABYSSINIA

An Italian aeroplane flew over Addis Ababa and dropped many leaflets, signed by Marshal Badoglio's Chief of Staff, declaring that the Emperor's Army is defeated. If the Abyssinians destroy roads or try to prevent the advance of the Italian Army, then they will be destroyed and killed without pity. The aeroplanes will massacre from the air and destroy everything that exists. The Princess Tsahai, the Emperor's daughter, summoned the Foreign Press correspondents and made a desperate appeal to them for help.

KING FUAD

King Fuad of Egypt is dangerously ill and is not expected to recover.

THE GENERAL ELECTION IN FRANCE

The first round of the General Election in France has been held, but of the candidates for the 618 seats in the Chamber

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only 183 are finally elected. For the remainder a second ballot must be held next Sunday.

Tuesday 28

THE CIVIL LIST

The Select Committee issued their report on the new Civil List. The total is £410,000, compared with £470,000 fixed for King George V in 1910. It is proposed that in the event of the marriage of the King and the birth of a Duke of Cornwall, £40,000 should be provided, with an annuity of £70,000 to the consort of the reigning King, should she survive her husband. The King proposes to make provision for the Duke of York as heir-presumptive from the revenues of the Duchy of Cornwall.

NO WOMEN IN DIPLOMACY

A White Paper has been issued announcing that, while the Government fully recognise the services rendered by women in the civil service, they are convinced that the time has not yet arrived when women can be employed either in the consular service or in the diplomatic service with advantage to the State or with profit to women.

DEATH OF KING FUAD

After an unexpected rally, King Fuad suddenly collapsed and died at 1 p.m. At 11 o'clock at night the Prime Minister declared Prince Farouk King, and issued a proclamation to the nation extolling the virtues of the late monarch. The news was broken to Prince Farouk, his son, who is now being educated in England, by his tutor. He is returning to Egypt immediately.

King Fuad came to the throne of Egypt in 1917. At the outbreak of the war in 1914 the British Government deposed the Khedive, Abbas Hilmy, and his elder brother, Prince Hussein Kamel, was declared Sultan of Egypt. He died in 1917, and as his son renounced the succession, the throne was accepted by Prince Fuad. He assumed the title of King in 1922, and since has ruled by a personal government that preserves some constitutional forms.

The new King is aged sixteen, and during his minority the royal power is entrusted to a Council of Regency: by Egyptian law he comes of age at eighteen. He was born on 11 February, 1920, and is the only son of King Fuad by his second marriage to Princess Nazli. He was brought up by English nurses, who taught him the English tongue. Last October he came to study at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, and went into

residence at Kenry House, Kingston Hill, and his suite included Ahmed Bey Hassanein, the explorer, as his tutor, a military tutor, an aide-de-camp, a physician, and a religious tutor. So far he had only attended study at the Royal Military Academy once a week.

UNSEASONABLE JESTS

A humorist of Aachen who collected the "thousand best jokes" about the new Germany and its Government was sentenced at Cologne to fifteen months' imprisonment. He had hoped to earn a large sum by selling his pamphlet in France, Belgium, and Holland.

Wednesday 29

MISS RENEE HOUSTON KIDNAPPED

Miss Renee Houston, acting at the Empire Theatre, Edinburgh, was seized by a party of men, who broke into her dressing-room and carried her off. She was wearing only a blouse and panties at the time, and, being much alarmed, kicked out vigorously. With two men holding her by the elbows she was pushed along outside the theatre and dragged into a motor-car through the window. As a result of this treatment she has a sprained ankle and many bruises. It now appears that the whole affair was a rag organised by students of Edinburgh University. It has caused considerable disgust in Edinburgh.

THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN IN THE UNITED STATES

It is not expected that there will be any serious Democratic candidate opposing Mr. Roosevelt. At present the strongest Republican candidate is Governor Landon, though Senator Borah may be supported.

Thursday 30

THE FUNERAL OF KING FUAD

Before the largest crowd seen in Cairo, the body of King Fuad was borne in an imposing procession from the Abdin Palace to the Mosque El Refai. In accordance with ancient Moslem custom, the ceremony was very simple. Military bands marched in the procession but did not play. The coffin, covered with the black Egyptian flag, bearing an embroidered crown, was placed on a simple gun-carriage, and none of the King's decorations, orders, or swords were displayed. Before the coffin walked long lines of Egyptian troops; behind came the Ulema (wise men), Prince Mohamed Aly, and Ali Pasha, the Prime Minister, followed by representatives of foreign Royalties and

30 April

Governments, diplomats, and soldiers. Outside the mosque, sacrificial oxen were slaughtered, the blood spattering the coffin. When the body had been committed to the grave, religious rites continued for a long time.

THE DEPARTURE OF THE NEW KING OF EGYPT

King Farouk, the new King of Egypt, left Victoria to return to Cairo. Before his departure he visited King Edward and Queen Mary at Buckingham Palace, and remained for about half an hour. The Duke of York represented the King at the station, and Mr. Anthony Eden was also present. At Dover he was greeted by Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Evans, and a Guard of Honour of Seaforth Highlanders was waiting. The royal salute of twenty-one guns was fired as the steamer left the Admiralty Pier.

FALL OF ADDIS ABABA IMMINENT

At mid-day on 29 April the Italian column advancing on Addis Ababa climbed Mount Tarnaber. They were resisted only by a band of 350, led by Captain Tamm, a Swede. These were quickly outflanked and forced to retire. This morning the Italians are reported to have occupied Debra Brehan, only seventy-five miles from Addis Ababa along a level road. The fall of the town is now regarded as inevitable, as it is only defended by the armed police. The General Staff of the British Legation remain the calmest members of its population.

THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR A. E. HOUSMAN

Professor Alfred Edward Housman died to-night in a Cambridge nursing-home at the age of seventy-seven. He was educated at Bromsgrove School and St. John's College, Oxford, where he took a First Class in Classical Moderations in 1879. He then became a Higher Division Clerk in the Patent Office. In 1892 he left the civil service to become Professor of Latin in University College, London, where he remained until 1911, when he was elected Professor of Latin at Cambridge, and Fellow of Trinity College. He was most famous as the author of *A Shropshire Lad*, which first appeared in 1896. As a classical scholar he was merciless to fellow-scholars, but greatly respected for his learning. He was one of the last great academic "characters" of our time.

SIR HERBERT AUSTIN'S GIFT TO CAMBRIDGE

Sir Herbert Austin has given £250,000 for scientific research at the University of Cambridge.

Friday 1 May

MR. BALDWIN ON DEFENCE

Mr. Baldwin, in his presidential speech to the Primrose League, spoke of the unrest and tyranny in other countries, and remarked: "I believe the position of the Crown in this country is more firmly embedded in the hearts of the people than ever it has been." Later he said that, for this country, strength in the air, the knowledge of that strength abroad, and the knowledge that our defences are prepared against air attack, are the surest guarantees of peace and the greatest deterrent against war. "My whole aim as Prime Minister," he added, "is peace: I do not say that from a spirit of cowardice, but because I realise what modern war means to Europe."

MISS RENEE HOUSTON

Miss Renee Houston and her husband, Mr. Pat Aherne, were asked to identify the students alleged to have been involved in the attempt to kidnap her at the Empire Theatre. Over twenty young men attended the parade, but none was identified. Miss Houston, whose injuries include a cracked rib, will not appear further at the Empire Theatre, but, under doctor's orders, is returning to London.

Saturday 2

ABYSSINIA: THE EMPEROR FLEES

The Emperor, accompanied by his family, has fled from Addis Ababa and escaped to the port of Jibuti. The Abyssinians are thus left without a leader. Before he left, the Emperor ordered the palace to be thrown open, that the people might help themselves. Streams of looters immediately took advantage of this offer and seized clothing, bedding, furniture, and carpets. Ammunition dumps were also thrown open, and the Ethiopians enjoyed themselves recklessly firing shots into the air. Later, when the looters had consumed much liquor, wrangling began, and swords were drawn and shots fired in anger.

Most of the British subjects are safe in the Legation camp, and there are many tales of thrilling rescues and narrow escapes. The post office, the British Church, and many other buildings are gutted and burned. Dr. Melly, the head of the British Ambulance unit, was wounded when his car stopped to pick up a wounded Ethiopian. The drunken leader of a mob of looters thrust a revolver into the car and fired a bullet through Dr. Melly's lung.

It is reported at Rome that the Eritrean troops are in the neighbourhood of the capital. They are to unite with the

2-4 May

Italian troops, working night and day to clear their way from the east through floods and landslides before making the triumphal entry.

MR. EDEN'S SPEECH

Speaking at Leamington to-night, Mr. Eden said that we had an obligation, a signed covenant obligation, to play a part. We have sought to play that part to the full, and, so far as we have done this, we have nothing to reproach ourselves with, nothing to apologise for. Whatever the lessons of the last seven months, we must be prepared to learn them and to profit by them in a spirit of realism, keeping steadily before us what remains the constant purpose of British foreign policy--the maintenance of peace.

Monday 4

ABYSSINIA: DISORDER AT ADDIS ABABA

Mr. Eden informed the House of Commons that the Emperor left Jibuti this afternoon in the British cruiser *Enterprise* on his way to Palestine. He has renounced the direction of affairs. The news was received in regretful silence.

Later Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Eden emphasised that the Government would have to take stock of the position of the League of Nations in the light of the apparent failure of collective action in the Italo-Abyssinian dispute.

Meanwhile in Addis Ababa the firing into the air still continues, and there is much danger from falling bullets, some of which have pierced the tents in the British compound. The Italians are reported to be within ten miles of the town, and are expected to enter early on Tuesday. Many houses are now flying the white flag in anticipation. Most of the wholesale looting is over, but bands of desperadoes from the surrounding country roam the city, endangering the lives of both citizens and foreigners. The whole centre of the town has been razed to the ground by fire, at least ten Europeans have been killed, and the British Ambulance has dealt with over 300 wounded Ethiopians. Dr. Melly has been brought into the British Legation. His condition is serious, and will remain critical for some days.

It is estimated that 2,000 refugees are sheltering in the British Legation. The Turkish Legation was evacuated and the staff brought to the British compound. The American Legation, after evacuating the women and children, appealed to the British for the loan of some Sikhs and a Lewis gun to defend them against the bandits.

4-5 May

THE FRENCH ELECTIONS

The French elections have resulted in a victory for the Front Populaire, who have gained a working majority. The Socialists are now the strongest party in the Government, though the Communists have had the greatest proportional success. The Radicals have lost many seats.

THE BUDGET INQUIRY

Mr. Chamberlain announced a judicial tribunal to inquire into the question of the alleged "Budget leakage," with a High Court judge as president, and eminent barristers as members.

Tuesday 5

ADDIS ABABA CAPTURED

The Italians entered Addis Ababa this afternoon, and report that complete order is restored. The British Legation repulsed an attack on the Belgian Legation. Another British detachment went to the assistance of the American Legation, the staff of which remained until instructions from Washington were received for them to leave. They were then brought to the British Legation.

In Italy there is great rejoicing, and the triumph was celebrated by a national rally. Signor Mussolini addressed a huge crowd from the balcony of the Palazzo Venezia.

"Blackshirts of the revolution," he said, "men and women of Italy, Italians and friends of Italy beyond the mountains and beyond the seas, listen! Marshal Badoglio telegraphs: 'To-day, 5 May, at 4 p.m., at the head of the victorious troops, I have entered Addis Ababa.' I announce to the Italian people and to the world that peace is re-established. But it is strictly necessary that I should add that it is our peace, the Roman peace, which is expressed in this simple, irrevocable, definitive proposition: Abyssinia is Italian. Let us continue the march in peace for the tasks which await us to-morrow and which we will face with our courage, with our faith, and with our will. *Evviva l' Italia!*'"

The blare of a siren announced the victory. Immediately the bells rang out, offices were closed, shops shut, and houses and buildings decorated with flags. The streets were brilliantly illuminated, and loud-speakers in the main centres poured forth a constant succession of patriotic hymns and military marches.

THE "HERZOGIN CECILIE"

The unspoilt grain which is still lying in the *Herzogin Cecilie* is being salvaged. So far about 300 tons have been transhipped

5-6 May

to Plymouth. Some days ago Lady Houston offered to bear the cost of salvage and repair of the *Hersogin Cecilie* for use as a training-ship, but the Admiralty declined the offer.

AN ANCIENT FAMILY

The Italian Government periodically offers prizes, under the title of "Fedeli alla Terra," to those agricultural families which can prove long, uninterrupted connection with the same land. In 1934 a family which claimed first place proved a connection of 709 years. This record has now been broken. Giuseppe Pierantoni has proved that his family has worked on the same land for 918 years.

Wednesday 6

ABYSSINIA

There were further manifestations of joy in Italy. Flags are to be flown for three days. The Italian Press boasts of the greater power and prestige acquired through the victory, and describes Italy as having become an "intercontinental and oceanic power."

In Addis Ababa all is quiet. The Italian troops are in occupation and the Italian flag flies over the Gibbi Palace. Marshal Badoglio has set up a special court martial for the administration of justice.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

In the House of Commons there was a fierce debate on foreign affairs. Mr. Dalton declared that the public were ashamed of a Government which had ruined Abyssinia and the League and had humiliated their own country. They had done nothing effective to help Abyssinia. They had even made money out of oil shares in companies which supplied Italy with oil for her aeroplanes.

Mr. Eden replied that we had not let the League down because we had taken the lead in League action. We had not made blood money out of oil, because our supplies of oil to Italy were infinitesimal. We had begun with sanctions, but the only really effective sanction would have been the closing of the Suez Canal, and that would have been war. He frankly admitted a collective failure, but the League must go on, and its members must take stock of their position.

KING FAROUK

King Farouk reached Cairo to-day. At Alexandria huge crowds lined the route from the quay to the station. As he landed

6-7 May

he entered an open car, attended by Ali Pasha Maher, the Prime Minister, and was driven slowly, amid tumultuous cheering, along the four-mile route, which was lined by troops, police, and firemen. There were loud shouts of "Long live the King of Egypt and the Sudan." Rose-petals and flowers were showered upon him from balconies. On arriving at Cairo, having been cheered by the *fellahin* along the railway, King Farouk was received by Prince Mohamed Aly, the Heir Presumptive, Sir Miles Lampson, the British High Commissioner, and many other distinguished persons. His dignified but modest bearing created an excellent impression. One of his first acts was to visit the Mosque of El Refai, where he prayed before his father's tomb before going on to the palace.

THE KIDNAPPING OF HERR JAKOB

Dr. Hans Wesemann was sentenced at Basle to three years' penal servitude on a charge of having kidnapped the anti-Nazi journalist, Herr Berthold Jakob. An extenuating circumstance was that he had received orders from German officials, and by his confession had lost all hope of returning to Germany, because he had revealed the criminal activity of German secret agents.

PROFESSOR FREUD'S EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY

Professor Sigmund Freud celebrates his eightieth birthday to-day. Some 200 of the leading writers of the world took this opportunity of presenting him with an address offering congratulations to the master whose discoveries have opened up the way to a new and profounder understanding of the human mind.

DEATH OF DR. MELLY

Dr. A. John Melly, leader of the British Red Cross unit in North Abyssinia, has died at the British Legation at Addis Ababa from the wound he received on Sunday.

A KEATS MANUSCRIPT SOLD

A four-page letter from John Keats to his brother Thomas, the property of Mr. Buxton-Forman, was sold to-day at Sotheby's to Dr. Rosenbach for £1,600.

Thursday 7

QUESTIONS TO BERLIN

The British Ambassador, Sir Eric Phipps, this morning handed to the German Foreign Minister, Baron von Neurath,

7-8 May

the questions formulated by the Government relating to the peace proposals put forward by Germany. No information about them is to be published at present: they are said to be "polite but complicated."

MISS AMY JOHNSON'S NEW RECORD

Miss Amy Johnson arrived at Capetown at 3.30 (British summer time), having beaten Flight-Lieutenant Tommy Rose's record time for the flight from England by 11 hours 12 minutes. She took 3 days 6 hours 25 minutes.

Friday 8

THE ITALIANS IN ADDIS ABABA

All telegrams report that the town is rapidly settling down and adapting itself to the Italian occupation. Marshal Badoglio has issued a warning that all disorders will be punished by the Military Tribunal. Military fatigue parties are clearing away the debris, and shopkeepers are endeavouring to carry on "business as usual." By Italian command, the Bank of Ethiopia has been reopened. The people immediately crowded into it, asking for their thalers to be changed into Italian money, in which "they have the greatest confidence." Ras Seyyum has surrendered. He has not followed the Emperor, but has decided to "wait for better times."

THE NOTE TO BERLIN

The questions put to Berlin by the British Government are now published in a White Paper. They are:

Does Germany regard herself as being in a position now to conclude "genuine treaties"?

What view does Germany take to-day of the continued maintenance of the remaining operative clauses of the Versailles Treaty?

Does Germany recognise, and intend to respect, the existing territorial and political status of Europe, except in so far as this might be subsequently modified by free negotiation?

Does Germany agree to accompany a Western Air Pact by a regional agreement for limitation of air strength?

Would the German Government agree to interpret the phrase "the States on Germany's south-eastern and north-eastern frontiers," with which non-aggression pacts are proposed, as covering the Soviet Union, Latvia, and Estonia?

Will the German Government give some definition of the phrase "the separation of the Covenant of the League of Nations from its basis in the Treaty of Versailles setting"?

8-10 May

In Berlin these questions are considered to be fair and to the point, and to have been courteously presented.

PALESTINE

British reinforcements are being sent to Palestine from Egypt. A meeting of the Arab Strike Committee, led by the Mufti of Jerusalem, has passed a resolution for a complete boycott of the Jews, a civil disobedience campaign, and non-payment of taxes. This is thought to be more theatrically defiant than serious.

A FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR THE ROADS

Mr. Hore-Belisha, the Minister of Transport, announces that the Government will spend £130,000,000 on road construction in the next five years. The programme should eliminate all weak bridges, and provide for 850 miles of dual carriage-ways and 500 miles of cycle-tracks. He added that on every day since he had been appointed to "this dismal and unfortunate office" there had been a net addition to the roads of 450 vehicles.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

This year Harvard celebrates the 300th anniversary of its founding. The University was founded by John Harvard, the son of a Stratford-upon-Avon butcher, who joined the Puritan migration to New England in 1637. He died the next year, and left his library and half his property for the founding of a college.

CHARLES LAUGHTON IN PARIS

At the gala performance at the Comédie Française Mr. Charles Laughton played Sganarelle in Molière's *Le Médecin Malgré Lui*. He was received with great enthusiasm, every seat in the house being booked some days before. Few English actors have had the honour of performing on the French stage. Macready played Macbeth in Paris, and Mrs. Patrick Campbell played in *Pelléas et Mélisande*. Mr. Laughton declared that he would willingly desert Shakespeare for Molière.

Sunday 10

ITALY ANNEXES ABYSSINIA

All the provinces and peoples of Abyssinia have been placed under the full and entire sovereignty of Italy, and King Victor Emmanuel assumes the title of Emperor of Abyssinia for himself and his heirs. There is great rejoicing in Rome. Salutes of

10 *May*

101 guns were fired in all garrison towns and all ships of the Navy, and everywhere there is wildest enthusiasm. Last night there was a great Fascist rally in the Piazza Venezia. The crowds were addressed by Signor Mussolini, who said:

"All knots were cut by our gleaming sword, and the African victory remains in the history of the fatherland entire and unsullied, a victory such as the legionaries that have fallen and those that survive dreamed of and willed. Italy has finally her empire, a Fascist empire, because it bears the indestructible tokens of the will and of the power of the Roman lictors, because this is the goal towards which, during fourteen years, were spurred on the exuberant and disciplined energies of the young and dashing generations of Italy.

"An empire of peace, because Italy desires peace, for herself and for all men, and she decides upon war only when it is forced upon her by imperious, irrepressible necessities of life.

"An empire of civilisation and of humanity for all the populations of Abyssinia. That is in the tradition of Rome, who, after a victory, associated the peoples with her own destiny.

"Here is the law, O Italians, which closes one period of our history, and opens up another like a vast pass opening on all the possibilities of the future.

"(1) The territories and the peoples that belonged to the Empire of Abyssinia are placed under the full and entire sovereignty of the Kingdom of Italy.

"(2) The title of Emperor has been assumed for himself and for his successors by the King of Italy.

"Officers, N.C.O.s, soldiers of all the armed forces of the State in Africa and in Italy, Blackshirts, Italian men and women!

"The Italian people has created the Empire with its blood. It will fertilise it with its labour and will defend it against anybody whomsoever with its arms. In this supreme certainty, legionaries, raise up on high your insignia, your weapons, and your hearts, to salute, after fifteen centuries, the reappearance of the Empire upon the fateful hills of Rome. Will you be worthy of it?" To which the crowds roared "Yes!"

FRANCE

The French Government is irritated and annoyed at the Italian annexation of Abyssinia. For the past week it has been using all its powers to avert this challenge to the League, but, since their advice to Signor Mussolini has been ignored, the Cabinet have decided that the French delegates at Geneva will

have no choice but to abstain from any activity in favour of Italy. -

THE LEAGUE COUNCIL

There is much activity and anxiety at Geneva, and all the delegates strongly insist that the League must go on, which itself is an admission of the gravity of the situation.

A NEW PRESIDENT OF SPAIN

Don Manuel Azaña by a very large majority was chosen in the Electoral College to be President of the Republic. He has been succeeded as acting Prime Minister by Señor Bárcia. His followers are not enthusiastic at the election, because they fear that now he will become a figurehead, and affairs without his direct leadership will suffer.

Monday 11

THE BUDGET INQUIRY

The tribunal of inquiry appointed to investigate the alleged disclosure of Budget secrets held its first meeting. Amongst the witnesses was Mr. Leslie Thomas, a partner in the City firm of stockbrokers and a son of Mr. J. H. Thomas. He spoke of insurance against risk of increase in income-tax which he effected for Mr. Alfred Bates, an old-standing friend of his father.

GENEVA

The Council of the League met this evening. Baron Aloisi refused to recognise the right of the Abyssinian delegate to be present, and declined to sit at the Council with him. When he found the Council did not support him he walked out, the Italian delegation following, but at the public meeting held a little later, when other matters were discussed, Baron Aloisi came back. The Emperor of Abyssinia has sent a letter to the Secretary-General of the League from Jerusalem, in which he declares that "we have decided to put an end to the most sweeping, the most unjust, and the most inhuman war of modern times by leaving the country in order to avoid the extermination of the Abyssinian people." The general opinion in the Council is that sanctions should be maintained.

ABYSSINIA: LAST HOURS IN ADDIS ABABA

The Times correspondent has sent the following account of the last hours in Addis Ababa:

"Last Thursday [30 April] the Emperor, with Ras Kassa,

Ras Getatchu, and Ras Seyyum, entered Addis Ababa from Entotto. He left the remainder of his Imperial Guard at Fiche, which is part of Ras Kassa's fief south of the Blue Nile. Previously his White Russian adviser, Konovaloff, had reported to him his views about their demoralisation and the impossibility of combining them with the new levies, and the Emperor listened attentively, as he has always listened to any European who has shown any spark of intelligence. The army at Fiche, which numbered 10,000 on Wednesday last [29 April], was in fact dwindling rapidly, the Addis Ababans were returning homewards, and the rest forming *shifta* bands.

"The Emperor entered Addis Ababa in the afternoon, immediately meeting his Crown Council. As usual during those last days, after the occupation of Dessie, these people were hopeless, indecisive, incapable. Their inactivity before the Emperor's arrival had already opened the pass of Tarmaber to the Italian mechanised troops, and the young Ethiopians grumbled and cursed, but did nothing to repair the damage. It was then that I first saw despair and fatalism as parts of the Ethiopian character.

"Nobody stirred a hand to defend the city at Tarmaber, and what reinforcements had been sent out to Captain Tamm, the Swedish officer in charge of the pass, never arrived. Either they had been sent without provisions, or were unwilling men who were not eager to risk the hostility of the local population. Though completely untrue, it was widely believed in Addis Ababa in those days that the Gallas, who had sacked Dessie the day after I left there, were now very near Addis Ababa.

"At the Tarmaber Pass, a few companies could have held up the Italian mechanised advance, but the Council by themselves could not dispatch them. Only the Emperor himself could put enthusiasm and organisation into the Addis Ababa troops. The tragedy of the whole situation was that he arrived two days too late. Nevertheless, on Friday [1 May] the Emperor, on his own initiative, ordered the war drums to roll at the palace and an Imperial *taexas* (decree) was read out commanding the troops of Ras Getatchu, Governor of Kafa, and Dedjasmach Mangosha, Governor of Saio, in Western Wallega, and a high officer, to march out against the enemy. The decree was received with acclamation by 1,000 Shoans, who went under their chiefs to palaver, but the demoralisation had gone too far and nobody else obeyed.

"That was in the Great Gibbi (palace), over which, for the

last time, the green, yellow, and red flag of Ethiopia waved. Meanwhile, in the Empress's pavilion at the Little Gibbi, a different scene was enacted. The Emperor lay back on a sofa, utterly tired, while the Empress sat erect with her finger raised. When he said wearily that he would fight on, she insisted that he should fly. Nine hundred volunteers, with new Mauser rifles, marched past with bugles playing, under the leadership of a young Ethiopian whose father had been killed in the war, but the Emperor surveyed the parade listlessly. His physique is not strong, and the obviously appalling rigours of the retreat from Mai Chio had affected him physically, as much as the evidences of the disloyalty of his whole people, who had harried the retreat of his defeated Army when his personal servants had been killed or wounded by his side at Magdala, hurt his sensitive spirit.

"For hours the Empress lectured the Emperor, while in the next room Ras Getatchu and the Crown Prince in khaki mantles, sat in the corner on the floor in Ethiopian style and joked and laughed, showing that appalling lack of responsibility during a time of crisis to which the Emperor is one of the few outstanding exceptions among Ethiopians. Ras Kassa, a man with a noble head and a talkative tongue, was called in by the Emperor. He sat on a chair, crossed his legs, and began his Nestorian advice, while the young Ethiopians outside melted away. 'We shall never see the Emperor,' they said, 'now that Kassa has got in.' They never did.

"All those waiting outside went away. Even the foreign political adviser, Dr. Spencer, was unable to see the Emperor, and was informed that he might safely go home to sleep and return to the Gibbi next morning at 9 o'clock.

"By 9 o'clock next day, however, the Emperor had taken train to Jibuti with the Empress and the Imperial family. He had arranged for a warship to stand by when his private secretary visited the British Legation before midnight. His last order was: 'Let my palaces be thrown open to my people,' and evidences of his total generosity were heard early in the morning, when Addis Ababa resounded with shots fired into the air from the new rifles and automatic guns taken out of the Gibbi arsenal by the mob.

"Looting started at the Ghanotakis Italian-Greek shop which was sealed by the Government at the beginning of the war. It spread throughout the centre of the town, and we went to the British Legation, first with our womenfolk and then with what

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remained of our possessions. Mohammed Ali and Basra defended themselves in their shops, killing thirty looters between them, and the Sikhs evacuated the American, Belgian, and Turkish Legations in the face of attack. I nearly had my longish nose shot off by a spent bullet. For three days rifles went off every second in Addis Ababa. *Shifta* bands appeared in the streets, but we disarmed one lot, on one of whom I found my old shotgun, and held up another who used the Emperor's Delage to molest the Legation quarter.

"Just as I was concluding this dispatch the Italians entered the city past the Legation gates, with flowers in their hats and in somewhat amusing battle order. Marshal Badoglio preceded the Eritreans. Next came the attached journalists and then the white troops. So the story need not go to the railway station under arms after all."

Tuesday 12

THE BUDGET TRIBUNAL

To-day Sir Maurice Hankey, Secretary to the Cabinet, gave evidence, and later Mr. Alfred Bates was questioned.

GENEVA

The Italian delegation have been ordered by Signor Mussolini to leave Geneva by the first train. The Italians protest that they cannot understand the attitude of the League. Sanctions, they say, were imposed to put a stop to the war, and now that the war is ended there is no reason for their continuance. They claim that their cause has been persistently misrepresented and the fact ignored that they went into Abyssinia as liberators.

THE EXECUTION OF DR. RUXTON

Dr. Buck Ruxton was executed at Strangeways Gaol, Manchester. A large crowd was gathered outside the prison, and when Mrs. Van der Elst appeared to make her protest against capital punishment there was some hooting, particularly from girls and women. After the execution had been announced there was silence. Then Mrs. Van der Elst began to make an appeal in the interests of humanity against the law of taking a life, which was received with jeers and derision. Later she was charged at Manchester Police Court with behaving in a manner whereby a breach of the peace might have been occasioned, with wilfully obstructing Great Ducie Street by allowing a motor-car to remain there after being requested to move, and with driving a car in a manner likely to endanger life, contrary to the Police Act.

13-14 May

Wednesday 13

THE BUDGET TRIBUNAL

Mr. Alfred Bates was further examined. He said that he had known Mr. Thomas for more than twenty years. He spent a considerable part of the Easter week-end with Mr. Thomas, but neither then nor at any other time did Mr. Thomas disclose anything to him about the contents of the Budget. The only business transaction he had ever had with Mr. Thomas was in connection with the rights of a book dealing with his life. He had offered Mr. Thomas £20,000 for the exclusive literary rights of his biography.

PALESTINE

The situation in Palestine grows worse. Two Arab watchmen were attacked and one killed at a Jewish quarry on the Jerusalem-Jaffa road. Two orthodox Jews in the old city have been shot dead. The strike will continue.

A NEW CRIME

A new crime has been discovered. According to a judgment in the King's Bench, it is now a penal offence for persons to share in the hire of a taxi.

Thursday 14

THE BUDGET SECRETS

The inquiry into the Budget leakage has now been going on for several days. To-day Mr. J. H. Thomas gave evidence. He firmly denied making at any time to any person any sort of disclosure concerning the contents of the Budget statement.

THE DEATH OF VISCOUNT ALLENBY

Field Marshal Viscount Allenby died suddenly to-day at the age of seventy-five. He first saw service in Bechuanaland in 1884. He distinguished himself as a Column Commander in the South African War, but of all the English commanders in the Great War he achieved most lasting fame for the most brilliant and spectacular victory when in the autumn of 1918 his army completely defeated the Turks in Palestine. In little over a month it advanced 500 miles, captured 75,000 prisoners and nearly 400 guns.

AUSTRIA: PRINCE STARHEMBERG OUSTED

The uneasy dual control in Austria has come to an end. For some time there has been friction between Prince Starhemberg and Herr von Schuschnigg. A little over a fortnight ago Prince Starhemberg declared that the Heimwehr would only be dissolved over his dead body. Public opinion was shocked last

14-16 May

Tuesday when Prince Starhemberg telegraphed congratulation to Mussolini. The telegram jubilantly applauded the Fascist defeat of "democratic insincerity and hypocrisy," and repeatedly identified Austria in demonstrative terms with "the Fascist spirit" and with Fascist ideals and methods in all their forms. Herr von Schuschnigg thereupon offered the resignation of his Government to President Miklas, who charged him to form a new Government, which does not include Prince Starhemberg.

ABYSSINIA

The Primate of the Abyssinian Church, the Abuna Cyril, has made his submission to Marshal Badoglio, who assured him that Italy respects all religions, and especially the Coptic. The Italians are already opening schools in Abyssinia.

Friday 15

MISS AMY JOHNSON

Miss Amy Johnson landed at Croydon to-day at 1.36, having completed her homeward journey from the Cape in 4 days 16 hours 17 minutes. She has thus made the double journey to the Cape and back in less than eleven days.

A BODY DISCOVERED IN A RICK FIRE

The body of Mr. Thomas Patteson Moss, a third-year undergraduate of Balliol College, Oxford, was found badly burned beside a burning rick at Ascot Park Farm, about eight miles from Oxford.

Saturday 16

PACIFICATION OF ADDIS ABABA

The Italians have begun the pacification of Addis Ababa. Since their occupation on 5 May, 1,500 persons have been arrested, mostly for looting. Trials by the Military Tribunal are summary, and the condemned are shot in batches of forty or fifty in one of the military depots. To possess arms now is a capital crime. Herr Adel, an Austrian banker, returned home on 9 May to find that all his servants had been taken away by Italian soldiers. He went to the Military Governor to protest, and was told to return next morning, when he learned that they had been shot during the night. Mr. G. L. Steer, *The Times* correspondent, and other journalists, have been expelled from Ethiopia.

MURDERS IN JERUSALEM

Three Jews were killed and two others slightly wounded when an unknown person fired revolver shots into a crowd as it was leaving the cinema.

16-18 May

PRINCE STARHEMBERG IN ROME

Prince Starhemberg had a two hours' conversation with Signor Mussolini. It is believed that he came to Rome with the object of talking with the *Duce* both about the general European situation and the new state of affairs created in Austria. It is said that Signor Mussolini did not encourage him in any activity against the Schuschnigg Cabinet, but rather advised him to support it and await the outcome of events. His arrival in Rome was not marked by any special ceremony.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF ROUEN

The Archbishop of Rouen has been deprived of his office by order of the Pope, after he had several times refused to resign when called upon. In defiance of Canon Law, he caused an ecclesiastic to be deferred to secular justice without the consent of the Church. The ecclesiastic was Mgr. Bertin, until recently Vicar-General of Rouen, who was charged with maladministration of the funds of certain religious bodies.

Sunday 17

THE DEATH OF SIR PHILIP BEN GREET

Sir Philip Ben Greet died at the age of seventy-eight. Few schoolchildren have not seen his productions of Shakespeare.

Monday 18

THE BUDGET INQUIRY

Sir Alfred Butt, M.P., gave evidence before the tribunal of inquiry concerning the alleged leakage of Budget decisions. He said that he had been a member of the House of Commons since 1922, and during the whole of that time he had never asked or received from Mr. J. H. Thomas or any other Cabinet Minister any information regarding the Budget and other confidential matters associated with the Government.

SPAIN

The 2nd and 3rd Cavalry Regiments mutinied to-day at Alcalá, twenty miles east of Madrid, where there has been friction for some time between civilians and officers because of attempts to spread Marxist propaganda amongst the troops. This led to a riot last Friday in which several citizens were injured. Hereupon the Minister of War gave orders for both regiments to leave Alcalá, but the order was disobeyed. Strong police forces were sent, and twenty-seven officers arrested and conducted to the military jail at Guadalajara. The colonels of the regiments remained loyal, but were unable to remove their troops without officers.

18-19 May

In Barcelona the Gastronomical Syndicates controlling the staffs of hotels, restaurants, cafés and bars are on strike, so that visitors in the hotels go hungry. In Madrid the bull-fighters are also on strike, owing to a dispute between the Spanish and Mexican bull-fighters. Only at Osuña in Andalusia was a bull-fight held on the *fiesta*, and here the bulls were so successful that all the available *espadas* were knocked out before the third bull had been killed.

PALESTINE

A Royal Commission is to be appointed to inquire into the causes of unrest and the grievances felt by both the Arabs and the Jews in Palestine.

MURDER IN JERUSALEM

An Austrian mechanic employed in the Austrian hospice in the old city was shot dead in Jerusalem. He was wearing a tar-bush, which he had bought a few days before in the hope that it would prevent his being mistaken for a Jew while on his errands about the old city. As a result, he was mistaken for an Arab by a Jew anxious to avenge the three Jews murdered last week.

Tuesday 19

FIELD MARSHAL LORD ALLENBY

The ashes of Field Marshal Lord Allenby were buried in the Warriors' Chapel in Westminster Abbey.

THE ITALIAN POPULATION

The statistics of the census taken a month ago show that there are about 42,500,000 Italians in Italy, and that the population is growing by 400,000 a year. Rome has now about 1,175,000 inhabitants, and Milan 1,114,104.

ADDIS ABABA

The expulsion of foreigners continues, and many of the deportees, including *The Times* correspondent, have now reached Jibuti. Monseigneur Jerosseau, the venerable Vicar Apostolic at Harar, however, refuses to leave. In reply to General Graziani's orders, he said that he was eighty-four years old, and had spent fifty-four years as a missionary in Ethiopia. He would only leave if forced at the bayonet point. The Italians are behaving in a high-handed manner towards members of foreign legations and private persons. They wish the Sikh guard at the British Legation to be removed at once. Italian soldiers will then enter the Legation and institute a

search-post at the gate, as has already been done at the French Legation. Mr. Bonner, a warrant officer attached to the British Ambulance unit, who left Addis Ababa by train on the 13th to receive urgent treatment for rabies, has been arrested by the Italian soldiers. The British diplomatic bag has also disappeared.

Wednesday 20

THE BUDGET LEAKAGE

The inquiry into the leakage of Budget secrets held its last public sitting, and counsel addressed the committee on behalf of Mr. J. H. Thomas, Mr. Alfred Bates, and Sir Alfred Butt. The committee have retired to consider their report.

THE BLACK FOREST DEATHS

The London County Council now publish a report on the accident in the Black Forest which caused the death of five boys. The sub-committee express entire approval of the action of the master in charge of the boys, and pay generous tribute to his personal courage.

FRANCE

M. Blum is still trying to find a new Cabinet. He is particularly anxious to include M. Herriot.

MR. GIELGUD'S NEW PLAY

At the New Theatre, Mr. John Gielgud is producing Tchekhov's play *The Seagull*. Mr. Gielgud himself takes the part of Tregorin, with Miss Edith Evans as Irina Arcadina.

WOMEN IN THE OXFORD UNION

A proposal that women undergraduates should be admitted to special membership of the Oxford Union, entitling them only to attend debates and to speak from the floor of the house, was submitted to a poll of the members. The proposal was rejected by 301 votes to 169.

Thursday 21

A DEBATE ON DEFENCE

Defence was vigorously debated in the House to-day. Sir Thomas Inskip said that when he took office he found that a good deal of preliminary preparation had been made. He had already set on foot essential investigations into such necessities as battleships, the Fleet Air Arm, and food-supplies for war-time, and to this end had appointed a special sub-committee,

21-22 May

under Sir William Beveridge, to plan the organisation of supplies for the civilian population. The greatest necessity was the supply of machinery, tools, and gauges for the making of munitions. There would be no substantial progress here for some months. Sir Archibald Sinclair and Mr. Attlee, for the Opposition, questioned whether Sir Thomas Inskip had sufficient powers to carry out a thorough overhaul of the defence forces.

Mr. Churchill bitterly attacked the Government for dawdling. He said that Sir Thomas Inskip had succeeded to a large and plain inheritance. Three years ago full warning was given and plain statements made about what was happening elsewhere. The public had no idea of the efficiency of the German war production, of its enormous scale, or of the smoothness with which it could be made to pour out an almost limitless flow of the most horrible weapons. He could not understand why the Government should think it a virtue to dally and hesitate. Why, at the eleventh hour were we still unable to decide on measures equal to the emergency? Was there no grip, no driving-force, no mental energy, no power of decision or design? They were told that the normal course of trade must not be interfered with, nor the easy-going voter alarmed or disturbed. How thin and paltry these arguments would sound if we were caught a year or two hence, fat, opulent, free-spoken—and defenceless.

SPAIN

The new Minister of Education has ordered many Catholic schools and colleges to be closed. Amongst them is the College of Santa Isabel in Madrid, founded by Philip II, where 600 girls are taught. The college was attacked a few days ago by an arson party, who drove up in a taxi with a red flag and tried to set the main door on fire. The authorities are therefore anxious to get possession of this ancient building before it is burnt.

ABYSSINIA

Marshal Badoglio has left Addis Ababa for Italy, where he will make a report to the *Duce*. Marshal Graziani has taken his place.

Friday 22

MR. THOMAS RESIGNS

The King has accepted the resignation of Mr. J. H. Thomas as Secretary of State for the Colonies. Last Wednesday Mr. Thomas wrote to the Prime Minister that he felt that it was his duty to resign from the Government. "I have come to my

decision," he wrote, "because the way in which my name and private affairs have been bandied about renders my continuation as a member of the Government impossible."

Mr. Baldwin replied:

"MY DEAR JIM,—You have acted as I should have done in your place.

"I accept your resignation with deep regret, which I know will be shared by all my colleagues.

"The loyal support you have given through five strenuous years to the National Government will be always remembered by those who have worked with you.

"With all good wishes,

"I am very sincerely yours,

"STANLEY BALDWIN."

Both letters are published to-day in the Press.

THE HACKNEY MARSHES

The controversy over the Hackney Marshes has been solved. Mr. Arthur Villiers, who is manager of the Eton Manor Charitable Trust, has consented to sell to the London County Council twenty acres of playing-fields and other land which the trust owns on the verge of the marshes, so that this space may become a public playing-ground instead of the marshes.

PALESTINE

There is still great lawlessness in Palestine, much cutting of telegraph and telephone wires and attempts to damage the railway. Further reinforcements are being sent.

THE ZEPPELIN "HINDENBURG"

The Zeppelin *Hindenburg*, which left New Jersey on Thursday, passed over Keighley about 8 p.m. She flew very low, and dropped a parcel which was found to contain a spray of carnations to be laid on the grave of a German officer buried in Skipton Cemetery.

A FILM CUT BY THE CENSOR

The monthly news reel called *The March of Time*, dealing with the progressive deterioration of international relations between the Stresa Conference and the fall of Addis Ababa, when submitted to the censor, was considerably cut. Both versions were privately shown to Lord Cecil and other representatives of the League of Nations Union. The film was made

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in the United States, and in the uncut version great emphasis is laid throughout on British leadership of the League. The censor has reduced the emphasis on the purely British effort for peace by cutting scenes showing British battleships and transports entering the Mediterranean, and references to a proposal to close the Suez Canal against Italy. Where the original captions referred to the Italian triumph as a blow to Great Britain they now speak of a blow to the League and the hope of world peace.

A SCOTSMAN EXECUTED IN CALIFORNIA

Alexander Mackay, a native of Glasgow, was hanged this morning at St. Quentin Penitentiary, California, with his confederate, Joseph Kristy, for kidnapping members of the Californian Prison Board during an attempt to escape in January 1935. Many efforts were made by the British Government to save Mackay, but after various postponements the sentence was carried out.

Saturday 23

FRANCE

M. Blum has made progress in forming a Left Government. Two representatives of the Communist Party met him and discussed the new Government's programme. They assure him of their willingness to co-operate on broad lines to carry out the programme of the Front Populaire.

A CONFERENCE OF DOWSERS

Members of the British Society of Dowzers met in the rain at Kirtlington Park, Oxford, to-day to carry out tests, which were disappointing. Only one entrant gauged accurately the depth and volume of a well. In other tests entrants had to select from about seventy covered flower-pots the three under which there had been concealed a pound of bar gold or silver or copper coins. One man dowsed the copper, one woman the silver, no one the gold. In another test, two large sheets of copper, weighing over $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. each, had been buried, one on edge, the other flat. No one dowsed both sheets. Another test was to discover a hidden boy. For this, each of the entrants was given a piece of shirt which had been worn by the boy and was told that he was in the open not more than three-quarters of a mile away. Amongst the entrants was Mr. John Clarke, of Melton Mowbray, who has successfully dowsed eighty corpses. He was not successful in finding the boy, but explained afterwards that the piece of shirt was clean: what one really needed was an old boot

or a hat with a greasy band, the older and dirtier and greasier the better.

Sunday 24

PALESTINE

Acts of lawlessness still continue in the country districts in Palestine, especially in the Nablus area, where detachments of police and soldiers are repeatedly fired on by bands in the hillside.

Monday 25

A ROYAL VISIT TO THE "QUEEN MARY"

The King, Queen Mary, the Duke and Duchess of York, the Duchess of Gloucester, the Duke and Duchess of Kent, and Princess Elizabeth visited the liner *Queen Mary* at Southampton. The King flew to Southampton from Fort Belvedere, but the rest of the party went by train. They spent the morning inspecting C deck, and the King went to see the crew's quarters. After luncheon the tour was resumed round the third class and the engine-room. At the end Queen Mary said that the liner was even more beautiful than she had expected. The King left shortly after 4 o'clock and flew back to Fort Belvedere.

PALESTINE

Disorders in many parts of Palestine are increasing. The worst clash so far occurred at Gaza, where an Arab mob started destroying vegetables intended for the market. The police fired on the mob and killed one Arab, and it was necessary to concentrate British families in the police barracks. At Kefr Kenna the crowd stoned a convoy and then pelted the police.

It is believed that Italian propaganda has been indirectly responsible for much of the rioting and bad blood in Palestine of late. In Egypt, Italian propaganda seems to have been less successful as yet.

ARNOLD BENNETT'S MANUSCRIPTS

Some of the manuscripts and correspondence of Arnold Bennett were put up for sale at Sotheby's to-day. The *Old Wives' Tale* was withdrawn at £1,250 and the rest reached only a total of about £2,500. While he was alive Mr. Bennett was offered £3,000 for the *Old Wives' Tale*, but held out for £5,000. Only £26 was bid for the complete correspondence between Bennett and his literary agent, which consisted of thousands of letters and a complete record of his literary earnings from 1903 to his death.

26 May

Tuesday 26

THE KING AS FIELD MARSHAL

Seven Field Marshals of the British Army were received by the King at Buckingham Palace. Headed by the Duke of Connaught, they presented the King with his own baton as Field Marshal. Inscriptions on batons usually have included the full titles of the recipient, but by the King's own wish his was inscribed "His Majesty King Edward VIII, Field Marshal, 21 January, 1936."

A COALMINE DISASTER

Seven men were killed at Loveston Colliery, near Tenby, which produces some of the finest anthracite in the world and is owned by a French company. An inrush of water from an old working flooded the pit in which twenty men were working. Thirteen escaped, bringing with them one body, but all hope has been abandoned for the other six.

GERMAN BAN ON SPEAKING CHORUSES

Dr. Goebbels, Minister of Propaganda, has banned "speaking choruses" for the whole of Germany. Speaking choruses, he says, are for the most part sorry stuff. The dangers of it are not fully recognised in responsible quarters. Banalities and phrases do not acquire importance by being recited in solemn unison. There is no room for "dilettantisms" in the ranks of the party.

THE "GIRL PAT"

The fishing-trawler *Girl Pat* left Grimsby on 1 April for the North Sea fishing-grounds. Two days later she put in at Dover and was not heard of again till her owners learned from Corunna that she had left Corcubian on 24 April after refitting. Since then the adventures of this ship have caused considerable interest. Ten days ago she was reported at Grand Salvage, about 170 miles north of Madeira. Lloyd's agent at Dakar, French West Africa, states that she arrived there, and that the mate had been admitted to hospital; that the ship put out to sea again after the captain had said that he wished to try his engines.

DIVORCE IN RUSSIA

The Soviet Government have begun a national campaign to regularise family life. Abortion is no longer legal, and divorce will be more difficult and expensive, for both parties will have to attend a divorce court together and the proceedings will be recorded on their passports. The first divorce now costs 50

roubles, the second 150 roubles, and the third 300. Alimony for one child will be one-third of a man's earnings, for two children a half, and for three 60 per cent. Premiums also will be offered for large families. Parents with seven children will receive 2,000 roubles annually for each additional child until he is aged five years. An eleventh child brings the parents a prize of 5,000 roubles. Even without this encouragement, the population increases annually by 3,000,000.

"JINKS, WHAT A NIGHT!"

A house at Kingsdown, near Deal, was badly burnt during the night, but most of the furniture in the lower floors was taken out before the flames reached it. The parrot, on being rescued, remarked, "Jinks, what a night!"

Wednesday 27

THE "QUEEN MARY" SAILS

The *Queen Mary* sailed from Southampton at 4.30 this afternoon on her maiden voyage to New York with 2,000 passengers on board. Thousands of people gathered on the quay steps and the roofs of buildings and waved and shouted greetings as six tugs pulled the great ship out of the dock. A band of the Royal Marines played "Rule, Britannia!"

THE DERBY

The Derby was won to-day by Mahmoud, the Aga Khan's colt, in 2 minutes 33 seconds, which is a record for the race. Taj Akbar, also owned by the Aga Khan, was second, and Thankerton was third.

Thursday 28

THE CORONATION

King Edward, at a special meeting of the Privy Council at Buckingham Palace, has decreed Wednesday, 12 May, 1937, as the date for his coronation.

THE "QUEEN MARY"

At noon to-day the *Queen Mary* had completed 326 miles of her crossing at an average speed of 28.73 knots. The officers and the Cunard officials declare that they are not attempting any record on this maiden voyage.

THOMAS CARLYLE'S HOUSE

Thomas Carlyle's house, 24 Cheyne Row, Chelsea, was formally handed over to the National Trust to-day. It was in this house that Carlyle wrote the *French Revolution* and *Frederick the Great*.

28-30 May

THE DIONNE QUINS

The Dionne Quintuplets to-day celebrate their second birthday. They are estimated to have earned 300,000 dollars through advertisements, newspapers, and cinema contracts. They have cost 30,000 dollars. Thus their fortune to date is over 250,000 dollars. They received many presents, and Mr. Croll, the Minister of Public Welfare, presented 1,000 dollars to the parents, who, however, declined to attend the party. A contract for three pictures starring the Quins has been signed by their guardians and a film company for £50,000 in cash.

THE NEW SECRETARY FOR THE COLONIES

The Right Honourable W. G. A. Ormsby-Gore has been appointed Secretary for the Colonies.

Friday 29

THE CORONATION PROCLAIMED

The Coronation was proclaimed at St. James's Palace by the heralds with the ancient and customary ceremonies, but with the modern aid of microphones and loudspeakers. Thence the heralds moved off in the royal carriage to Charing Cross, Temple Bar, and the Royal Exchange.

STRIKES IN PARIS

There is a great strike in Paris of more than 20,000 men in the metallurgical industries.

Saturday 30

THE DEATH OF LORD DARLING

Lord Darling died to-day at the age of eighty-six. Though of late years he was little seen in the law-courts, he was in his day the most popular of all judges with the general public, and a great wit.

THE GERMAN NAVAL MEMORIAL

The War Memorial to 34,836 officers and men of the German Navy who lost their lives between 1914 and 1918 was dedicated at Kiel in the presence of the *Führer*. The ceremony took the form of speeches alternated with solemn music played by a naval band. Then the architect presented the Memorial to the Navy League, who handed it over to the Navy. Both in an allegorical rendering of the sea-history of Germany, recited by sailors with massed voices speaking in chorus, and in the speeches of the General-Admiral, it was emphasised that war-time animosities are forgotten and that the Germans had always regarded the British as honourable and generous

31 May-1 June

opponents of the same race and character as themselves. The British dead, said Admiral Raeder, are being commemorated as well as the German.

Sunday 31

THE EMPEROR OF ABYSSINIA

The Emperor of Abyssinia, with his two sons and daughter left Gibraltar for England in the Orient liner *Orford*.

FRANCE

In the new Chamber of Deputies, out of 618 members, 378 belong to recognised parties of the Left. M. Blum has almost completed his Cabinet. The strikes in the metallurgical factories are ending, and most of the factories occupied by the strikers have been evacuated. The employers of the Citroën factories have agreed to raise wages by 10 per cent, to grant their workmen an annual holiday of a week on full pay, and to abolish overtime.

TROUBLE IN CHINA

An attempt has been made near Tientsin to wreck a Japanese troop-train. A bomb exploded under a box-car. The Japanese military authorities take a serious view of the incident, and of the protests of students at Tientsin who object to the large increases in the Japanese garrison in North China. Students in Peking have declared short strikes in sympathy with their comrades of Tientsin. The Japanese threaten to deal with the situation themselves if the Chinese authorities do not cope with it. In Peking a Japanese officer named Sasaki has been killed, and the Japanese authorities assert that his assailants were soldiers of the British Embassy Guard. They say that two British soldiers who were beating a rickshaw coolie attacked Sasaki and another Japanese as they came out of a Japanese bar about midnight. Sasaki's friend fled, but he himself was afterwards found dead in the street. Japanese doctors held a post-mortem and declared that death was due to a fracture of the skull.

WHITSUN WEATHER

Whitsun weather was disappointing; cloudy and wet in most places, with occasional sunny intervals chilled by the north wind.

Monday 1 June

THE "QUEEN MARY"

The *Queen Mary* arrived in New York, where she was given a great reception. The vast ship was escorted into quarantine

1-2 June

by clouds of aeroplanes and shoals of small craft, amongst them a pleasure-steamer with representatives of the British Colonies on which fifteen girls, dressed in white trousers and black Hussar hats, played "God Save the King" on long silver trumpets. Many buildings in the city and along the foreshore flew the Union Jack on their flag-poles with the Stars and Stripes. The progress of the *Queen Mary* these last few days has been more than adequately described by the B.B.C.

THE NEW FRENCH CHAMBER

The new French Chamber met to-day for formal business. M. Sallès, the Senior Deputy, according to custom, rose to make a speech. As he was ending it was seen that Mlle Louise Weiss and three of her staunchest supporters in the cause of women's suffrage were sitting demurely in the Public Gallery, while in front of them on the balustrade had appeared four large posters in brilliant red letters bearing the words "La Française doit voter." This was greeted with clapping and cheering. The elderly usher, purple with unaccustomed effort and indignation, climbed up to the Left Bench of the Chamber and tore down three of the posters, but, as he could not quite reach the last one, Mlle Weiss obligingly pushed it down to him.

ITALIAN EAST AFRICA

The Italian Cabinet have now approved a law for the territorial and administrative framework of the Empire in East Africa. Its capital is at Addis Ababa, where the Governor-General has under him a Vice-Governor-General and a Chief of Staff. There are to be five subsidiary Governments in the provinces of Eritrea, Somaliland, Amhara, Galla, and Sidamo and Harar, each with their governors.

Tuesday 2

THE "GIRL PAT"

The *Girl Pat* has been sighted off the Bissagos Islands, Portuguese Guinea, steaming southwards.

THE BUDGET TRIBUNAL

The Tribunal have issued their report on the Budget leakage. They find that there was an unauthorised disclosure by Mr. J. H. Thomas to Sir Alfred Butt and Mr. Alfred Bates of information relating to the Budget for the present year, and that use was made of that information for the purpose of private gain.

2-3 June

PARIS STRIKES

The stay-in strikes in the metallurgical industries have again flared up. Another fifty-one factories have been occupied by the workmen. This movement is spreading to other industries and everywhere the method is the same. The workmen stay in the factories and refuse to withdraw until their demands have been satisfied.

ABYSSINIA

The total Italian dead in Abyssinia since 1 January, 1935, are reported to be 4,359; of these, 1,304 were white troops killed, missing, or died of wounds.

THE STANDARD OIL COMPANY'S PROBLEM

The Standard Oil Company of America is faced with a problem of distribution. Because of the difficulty of trading with Germany, the company had first exchanged oil for ships, and then bought harmonicas. In all it now possesses 40,000,000 harmonicas.

Wednesday 3

THE KING AND THE DUCHY

To-day the King made a tour in the Duchy of Cornwall. He drove slowly through Exeter along three miles of cheering crowds, and thence over Dartmoor to Bradninch, where he shook hands with many of the tenants of the Duchy of Cornwall, and so on to Tor Royal and the Duchy home farm at Stoke Climsland, stopping by the way at Tavistock. The King ended his tour at Plymouth aerodrome, where he entered his aeroplane and flew back to Windsor Great Park, where he landed at 7.30 p.m. and motored to Fort Belvedere.

THE ARRIVAL OF THE EMPEROR OF ABYSSINIA

The Emperor of Ethiopia arrived by special train at Waterloo Station at 4.30 p.m., accompanied by the Crown Prince, the Princess Tsahai, and others of his party. He was received with great enthusiasm by many delegations on the platform, and greeted officially by Mr. Eden's private secretary, which is the usual practice when a Royal visitor comes to England incognito. Ethiopians living in London first paid their respects to the Emperor in his carriage. When he descended to the platform he was introduced to some members of the delegations waiting to greet him, including Lord Allen of Hurtwood, Sir Norman Angell, Miss Eleanor Rathbone, Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, and

3-4 June

Professor H. S. Jevons, who read an address on behalf of the Abyssinian Association, illuminated in the national colours of Ethiopia. The Emperor having replied, a little girl presented the Princess with a bouquet of red and yellow roses and the party drove off to the Ethiopian Legation.

THE RETURN OF MARSHAL BADOGLIO

Marshal Badoglio landed at Naples, where the Prince of Piedmont and a number of high civil authorities went on board to meet him. Thence he went to Rome, passing through the streets in an open motor-car. In Rome, Signor Mussolini, surrounded by Ministers, generals, and Fascist authorities, welcomed him most cordially and warmly embraced him as the commander of the armies which had given Italy a new Empire.

THE STRIKES IN FRANCE

The stay-in strikes have now spread to many industries and factories all over the country. About 300 factories in Paris alone are now occupied and over 300,000 people have joined the movement so far. The only State employees on strike are the drivers of prison vans.

PALESTINE

While some Jews were working in an orange plantation, four Arabs entered during the mid-day rest and asked for a drink of water. After drinking, two of the Arabs produced revolvers and fired point-blank. They wounded two Jews and then made off. Two of them were recognised, however, as farm workers in the plantation. Their village was surrounded by a platoon of the Royal Scots Fusiliers, and five persons, including the two assailants, were arrested. The village has been fined £P500. Mr. Copland, President of the District Court of Jaffa, passing sentence of three years' imprisonment on an Arab for incendiarism, remarked that it was the eightieth case of arson in Jaffa during the last few weeks.

Thursday 4

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT

M. Blum's new Government, composed of Socialists and Socialist-Radicals with the support of Communists, has taken office. The chief Ministers in the new Government are M. Blum, Prime Minister; M. Daladier, Defence; M. Delbos, Foreign Affairs. The strike movement continues to spread rapidly. About half a million are now on strike. In the metallurgical industries the employers have broken off negotiations.

4-5 June

They say that they had agreed to begin a discussion on condition that works were evacuated, but since this agreement more works are still being occupied at the risk of paralysing the whole of French industrial life.

ROWDYISM IN THE OXFORD UNION

The Oxford Union Society debated the motion "That Peace and Freedom are not safe in the hands of the Conservative Party." One of the principal speakers was Mr. Harry Pollitt, Secretary of the Communist Party of Great Britain. Shortly before Mr. Pollitt ended his speech a bag of flour fell from the gallery. It missed Mr. Pollitt, but burst and scattered. Thereupon there was a rush from the bottom of the hall of members wearing red ties, who attempted to get to the gallery. Several persons in the gallery at the same time made a rush to get below. There was a scrimmage on the stairs, during which two Union stewards were knocked over. After a few minutes Mr. Pollitt resumed his speech and the debate ended quietly. The motion was carried by 234 votes to 122.

Friday 5

THE CABINET

Sir Samuel Hoare has been appointed First Lord of the Admiralty in place of Viscount Monsell.

FRANCE

M. Blum broadcast a statement announcing that the forty-hour week, collective contracts, and paid holidays, would be enforced by Bills which the Government will immediately lay before the Chamber, and they appeal to the working people to trust to the law for those of their claims which require legislation, and to press the others quietly and with dignity. They ask the employers to examine these claims in the most liberal spirit.

Meanwhile there are no newspapers in Paris to-day except the *Populaire* (Socialist), the *Humanité* (Communist), and the *Action Française* (Royalist). Employees in the great Paris stores have joined in the strike movement, and they have occupied the Printemps and the Galeries Lafayette.

THE PEKING INCIDENT

A Court of Inquiry has been held on the incident at Peking when a Japanese officer named Sasaki was killed. The officer commanding the British troops reports that beyond all question no British troops were in the neighbourhood of the brawl at the time. No inquest was possible, as the body of the officer

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was immediately burned. The Japanese political agent in North China declares that the Japanese authorities are not satisfied.

PALESTINE

Disorders in Palestine are increasing, and every day there comes news of some violence or murder. A bridge on the railway between Haifa and Lydda has been seriously damaged by an explosion.

A FARM FOR FRAU DOLFUSS

A number of friends and admirers of Dr. Dolfuss, the murdered Chancellor of Austria, have bought for Frau Dolfuss and her young son and daughter a farmstead of ninety acres at Stössing, in Lower Austria. Dr. Dolfuss was of peasant stock, and left little property.

Saturday 6

PARIS

The new Government of the Front Populaire received the confidence of the Chamber by 384 votes against 210.

PALESTINE

An attempt is being made to find a peace formula for Palestine. Five members of the Higher Arab Committee have gone to Amman to discuss with the Emir of Transjordan some means of ending the strike disorders, so that the Royal Commission can be sent.

THE MURDER OF MAX KASSEL

Before Sir Rollo Graham-Campbell, Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, a number of witnesses, some of them young women, were examined concerning the murder of Max Kassel, otherwise Emil Allard. Some time ago the British Government applied to the French Government for the extradition of George Lacroix and Suzanne Naylor, who are accused of his murder, but this was refused on the ground that they are French citizens, and that French law provides for their trial in their own country. The depositions will be used as evidence at their trial in France.

Sunday 7

A STORK HATCHED IN ENGLAND

Some experiments in bird migration are being made in Kent. About five weeks ago four storks' eggs were laid in a heron's nest in place of its own eggs. To-day the first stork ever hatched in a wild state in the British Isles emerged.

8-10 June

Monday 8

THE FRENCH STRIKES SETTLED

In the early hours of this morning an agreement of settlement of the strikes in all the trades involved was reached at a conference of employers and workmen. Wages are to be increased from 7 to 15 per cent, and workmen are given the full right to organise themselves into trade unions.

EMPLOYMENT

As a sign of increasing prosperity it is announced that there was a decline of 126,188 in the number of unemployed persons in May.

Tuesday 9

THE KING'S LEVÉE

In brilliant sunshine, the King drove in state from St. James's Palace to Buckingham Palace to hold the third levée of his reign. Thousands of people lined both sides of the Mall. The King, who was accompanied by Lord Granard, Master of the Horse, wore the uniform and kilt of the Colonel-in-Chief of the Seaforth Highlanders.

Wednesday 10

THE BUDGET INQUIRY

In the House of Commons the Attorney-General announced that there would be no criminal prosecution following the report of the Budget leakage. There would, he said, have been many legal difficulties in such a prosecution. Moreover, it would be impossible to find a jury which was not acquainted with the tribunal's report and with much of the facts. The decision was received by the House sympathetically.

THE "QUEEN MARY"

The *Queen Mary* docked at Southampton at 3.15 p.m. on her return from her maiden voyage to New York, having made the crossing in 4 days 15 hours 15 minutes at an average speed of 28.74 knots.

THE FRENCH STRIKES

In spite of the agreements, many men are still on strike in France, and some of the strikers, tired of doing nothing, are organising street demonstrations in Paris and elsewhere.

THE GERMAN CLAIM TO COLONIES

The German Colonial Society, which existed to keep alive the colonial question, is to be dissolved now that Herr Hitler has been converted to a desire for the return of the German colonies, which will become henceforth a matter for the State.

MR. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN AT THE 1900 CLUB

A dinner was given in honour of Mr. Neville Chamberlain by the 1900 Club. In the course of his speech Mr. Chamberlain spoke of the League of Nations and the events of the last twelve months. The policy of sanctions has now been tried out, and it has failed to prevent war, failed to stop war, failed to save the victims of aggression. Certain conclusions might fairly be drawn. The President of the League of Nations Union had issued a circular urging that if the policy of sanctions were to be pursued it might still be possible to preserve the independence of Abyssinia. That seemed to him the very midsummer of madness. But it was no reason why, because the policy of collective security had failed, we should abandon the idea of the League and give up the ideals for which the League stands.

Thursday 11

THE BUDGET LEAKAGE DEBATE

A crowded and uneasy House of Commons assembled to hear the painful debate on the Budget leakage report. Mr. Thomas was the first to make a personal statement, which he read in a low but clear voice. No member, he said, had ever been in a more painful situation. He refused to criticise the report, for he had made it clear to his friends before it was issued that he would accept its findings. No judicial tribunal was infallible, but he believed that there was not a fairer or more impartial court in the world than a British judicial tribunal. "I am, however," he said, "entitled to say, and I do say so to this House, that I never consciously gave a Budget secret away. That I repeat in spite of the tribunal's findings." He then added that he had already resigned his Cabinet seat and intended immediately to resign his seat also in the House. He ended by thanking all parties for their kindness, thought, and generosity over a period of twenty-seven years, and hoped that during that long period he had made some contribution of benefit to what to-day is almost alone the bulwark of democratic government. His speech was received with cheers.

Sir Alfred Butt then spoke. He said that until to-day he had not the slightest intention of resigning his seat, but, having regard to the action of Mr. Thomas, he felt that he could not take up a different position. He was horrified to learn that no opportunity would be given him of being tried in a court of justice. "I have been condemned," he said, "and apparently I must suffer for the rest of my life from a finding from which there is no appeal, upon evidence which apparently does not

justify a trial, and there is now no method open to me by which I can bring the true and full facts before a jury of my fellow-men. With the greatest respect, Mr. Speaker, I cannot conceive that the combined ingenuity and learning of the Lord Chancellor, the Home Secretary, and the Attorney-General could not have derived some method by which the vital issues raised could be properly and fairly tried in a court of justice in the usual way."

When Sir Alfred had left the House, Mr. Baldwin moved that the report should be considered. He stressed the differences between the tribunal and an ordinary court of law. "I emphasise this distinction," he said, "because great injustice would be done to two members of this House if they were regarded as having been found guilty by the tribunal of a criminal act. They have not been charged with any criminal act." Mr. Attlee, Sir Archibald Sinclair, and other members then spoke.

Sir Stafford Cripps discussed the legal principles raised by the Attorney-General. He thought that no better thing could be done than to refer such a question to the courts. The Attorney-General had said that it would be foreign to our general methods that information obtained before such a tribunal should be made the basis of a criminal charge. This produced the most fantastic result. The more important the crime the less the possibility of prosecution. If this had been some little leakage resulting in someone making £50 it would never have come to the House, but would have gone straight to the courts for prosecution. But because it was important, concerning important people and large sums, they were told that, having set up a tribunal to ascertain whether anything was wrong, and having ascertained that something was wrong, nobody must be prosecuted.

MARSHAL BADOGLIO

Marshal Badoglio has at his own request been relieved of the office of Viceroy of Abyssinia and is succeeded by Marshal Graziani. The King of Italy has created him Duke of Addis Ababa.

AN EXHIBITION OF SURREALIST ART

An Exhibition of Surrealist Art has been opened in the New Burlington Galleries which moves some to admiration, more to bewilderment, and most to derision. An attempt to explain the exhibition is given in the official catalogue, written by M. André Breton and Mr. Herbert Read.

12 June

Friday 12

THE KING

The King paid a surprise visit to the Ministry of Labour's training centres for young unemployed men at Slough and Park Royal, Acton. At Park Royal the visit was a complete surprise. The King was accompanied by Mr. Ernest Brown, the Minister of Labour. He was received by the manager of the centre and at once made an inspection. He saw about 400 men at work in fourteen different trades and occupations. Most of the men come from the distressed areas of South Wales, the North of England, and Clydeside. The King talked to some of the men and heard with interest that a high proportion have since found permanent employment.

THE DEATH OF THE PROVOST OF ETON

Dr. Montague Rhodes James died at the age of seventy-five. He was Provost of King's College from 1905 to 1918, and since 1918 Provost of Eton. He was a great mediæval scholar, but most famous as the author of the *Ghost Stories of an Antiquary*.

MR. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN'S SPEECH

Mr. Chamberlain's speech to the 1900 Club has caused considerable stir and some indignation expressed in questions in the House.

THE FRENCH STRIKES

The strike situation has greatly improved in France. An official settlement has been reached for the bulk of the metallurgical industry, and the Renault and Citroën works have been evacuated by the strikers, who left small parties in the factories to tidy up and to prevent sabotage. Workmen left the factories marching in orderly procession, singing and cheering their success through the streets of Billancourt and Boulogne-sur-Seine. The procession was led by bands, and included cars which carried symbolic figures, some serious, some comic, which had been made in the workshops during the strike.

G. K. CHESTERTON

G. K. Chesterton died at the age of sixty-two. He was the most versatile of modern writers, at his greatest in the years before the war. His Father Brown stories will perhaps be remembered longest, but he was no mean literary critic, and few have written so well on Dickens, Browning, Blake, or the Victorian Age.

Saturday 13

THE WIGHTMAN CUP

At Wimbledon the Wightman Cup has been won by the United States' Women's Team by four matches to three. The decision rested on the last set of the final match, in which Miss Helen Jacobs and Mrs. Fabyan beat Miss Kay Stammers and Miss F. James.

Sunday 14

THE GERMAN REPLY

There is still no sign of any German reply to the British questions about Herr Hitler's peace plan, and it is supposed that Herr Hitler is deliberating the rival attractions at the moment of the two countries, Great Britain and Italy, which alone Herr Hitler considered in *Mein Kampf* to be possible allies. In Germany it is widely believed that Great Britain has lost prestige over the whole Abyssinian affair. Signor Mussolini did not pay any attention to British opinion and yet succeeded.

Monday 15

THE SWISS RE-ARM

The denunciation by Germany of the Locarno Treaty has shaken the confidence Switzerland hitherto placed in international agreements. She fears that Germany, who is among the Powers that gave her neutrality, may one day cancel it as lightly. The Swiss Government are therefore to raise a loan of £15,500,000 for the purposes of national defence. The programme includes general fortifications, expansion of the Air Force, and improvement in wireless and medical services.

THE EMPEROR OF ABYSSINIA

The Emperor of Abyssinia was the guest at a Foyle's Literary Luncheon. He was announced to speak on the literature of Abyssinia. Lord Cecil of Chelwood, who presided, spoke of the profound respect which everyone felt for the Emperor, who was the victim of wholly undeserved misfortune, brought about—partly, at any rate—by the failure of those who promised him protection and assistance to fulfil their promise. The Emperor, speaking in Amharic, which was afterwards translated by Dr. Martin, said that he was deeply touched by the warm welcome of the British people. He was convinced that with the powerful aid of all those who believed in the Almighty and in justice, and who sought the maintenance of peace, his efforts would not have been in vain. He did not speak of the literature of Ethiopia.

15-16 June

UNITED STATES VETERANS PAID

At midnight the United States Post Offices distributed 38,000,000 bonus bonds, to the value of £380,000,000, to 3,518,000 veterans of the Great War. The bond is delivered by post to the recipient in person, and varies in value from £12 to £300.

A RIOT AT BOMBAY UNIVERSITY

Students of Bombay University invaded the hall where the Senate was sitting, shouting out, "Stop the Matriculation slaughter!" They made a number of demands and refused to withdraw. Meanwhile demonstrators outside threw stones and broke windows. The Vice-Chancellor requested the students to withdraw, and, when they refused, was obliged to adjourn the meeting. The students' grievance is that the Matriculation Examination is too stiff. In the last examination only 29 per cent of the candidates passed. They demand the passing of 44 per cent, which is the average in the last five years. The university authorities, however, replied that there had been a considerable lowering of the standard of intelligence of the average student in the Presidency, though they admitted that the papers this year were stiffer.

TWENTY DEAD IN AN INDIAN CINEMA FIRE

Twenty persons, mostly women and children, were burnt to death in a fire at the Motimahal Cinema, Hyderabad; the fire started in the operator's box and spread over the balcony which was reserved for zenana women and children. They were cut off by the flames from the stairs; a few leapt into the auditorium, but the rest stayed on the balcony and were buried in its collapse. The fire brigade fought manfully to rescue the audience, but the police had great difficulty in keeping back the enormous crowds outside, who were greatly excited by the screams of the victims. The next day the Nizam visited the scene and criticised the inadequate provision made for protecting the public against fire. He ordered the Commissioner of Police not to give permission henceforth for buildings to be used as cinemas unless the owners had made all possible arrangements for the escape of the audience in case of fire.

Tuesday 16

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF

The Unemployment Assistance Board report on their first year's work. They have given assistance to 800,000 persons—

representing, with their dependants, a total of 2,500,000. There are many anomalies, and payment of assistance to households with considerable means of their own. While undertaking to provide not only for the relief of material needs but also for the promotion of the welfare of the unemployed, the Board is faced with the difficulty of avoiding placing the unemployed person in a better position than the paid wage-earner.

THE BELGIAN STRIKES

In Belgium, strikes are spreading among the coal-mines, docks, and heavy industries generally. Trams and taxicabs are also stopped and shops shut. Large bodies of mounted police are being drafted into the mining areas. The authorities are determined not to let the situation develop on the lines of the French strikes, and have put a strong guard over such essential services as the telephone. The strikers demand a wage increase, the forty-hour week, and paid holidays.

Wednesday 17 A BRIGHT DEBATE IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS

The House of Lords staged a brilliant debate on Lord Crawford's motion deprecating the reading of speeches. He said that a higher level of oration would be possible if peers did not deliver written essays and did not confine their interest to their own essays. Lord Snell replied that when Ministers had often to be departmental parrots it was better to read facts. The almost ecclesiastical silence of the House was a fearful damper on oratory. Lord Mottistone pointed out that this most effective speech had not been read. Lord Halifax recalled that Gladstone's famous peroration on Home Rule was ensconced in the palm of his hand. He remembered only one effective impromptu speech—that of Sir Edward Grey on 3 August, 1914. The motion was carried without a division.

SPAIN

The state of public order in Spain was discussed by the Cortes until after midnight. Señor Gil Robles read a list of statistics of persons killed and injured and buildings destroyed since February. The Prime Minister replied that the figures were exaggerated. He said that the masses were in a veritable state of frenzy, and much tact and patience would be needed to restore normal conditions. Meanwhile in Madrid food-shops have been looted in the last twenty-four hours; strikers paraded the streets closely escorted by police; two bombs exploded; and

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a Fascist who fired two shots into the air was arrested. A secret Fascist printing establishment has been discovered and several arrests made.

A DANISH PALACE BURNT

Prince Axel's eighteenth-century mansion, Bernstorfskj, near Copenhagen, has been badly damaged by fire. Princess Margareta and her sons, Prince George and Prince Flemming, aged sixteen and fourteen, and five servants, were in some danger, but fortunately the two Princes smelt the smoke and called their mother. The Princess immediately called the servants, and, having telephoned to the fire brigade, without waiting to dress, began to rescue the art treasures, furniture, and books. None of the inmates of the house was able to save any clothes, so that when the firemen arrived the Princess and her sons were still in pyjamas. The cause of the fire was an electric iron which had not been switched off. Prince Axel, who is in London, is flying back to Denmark.

A MODEL AEROPLANE'S RECORD FLIGHT

In a competition on the Fishbecker Heath, near Hamburg, a schoolboy launched his model aeroplane driven by the usual india-rubber motor. It rose to a great height, and disappeared in the clouds. Three hours 14 minutes later it came to rest in the village of Preetz, in Holstein, fifty-seven miles away.

Thursday 18

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

To a crowded and restive House Mr. Eden made a declaration of British foreign policy. He dealt with two subjects: what Great Britain would propose to the League and what she expected from Germany.

The first fact was that sanctions had not fulfilled their purpose. The second was that no Abyssinian Government survived, and none could be restored except by military action from outside. The British Government, therefore, thought it was no use to continue sanctions as a means of pressure on Italy. At the September Assembly they would present a considered plan for League reorganisation. Referring to Germany, he emphasised the British efforts in the past to secure co-operation with Germany, which had survived several shocks recently. We were entitled to early answers to our legitimate questions, and might then negotiate for the disappearance of the demilitarised zone.

Mr. Lloyd George voiced the fury of the Opposition. He declared that the British Government had finished the League. The country which had faced Germany for four and a half years had bowed to Italy after six months. He made a bitter contrast between the courage of the great men of the past and the alleged cowardice of our present leaders. His speech roused the Opposition to ecstasy, and Mr. Baldwin replied. He reasserted that the League would have to take stock. It was not cowardice to insist upon proper equipment before accepting responsibility for further sanctions. The Government proposed dropping sanctions because they were convinced that it was best for European peace.

THE OXFORD UNDERGRADUATE'S DEATH

The inquest on Mr. T. P. Moss, the Oxford undergraduate whose charred body was found after a rick fire, was concluded to-day. The jury found that he was asphyxiated by the fire of the burning ricks, but there was no evidence to show how he came to meet his death. This case has caused considerable excitement, but it now appears from the examination of experts that Mr. Moss was neither murdered nor committed suicide.

THE BELGIAN STRIKES

Serious rioting broke out at Quaregnon, by the Maison du Peuple, and was only finally suppressed by the police firing over the heads of the crowds. The presence of the police in the mining areas is much resented. On the Dutch border motorists are being held up for ransom. The Minister of the Interior, however, reports that the position is easier. A committee is considering how to safeguard the transport of food-supplies.

THE DEATH OF MAXIM GORKI

Maxim Gorki, the famous Russian novelist, died at Gorky, near Moscow, at the age of sixty-eight.

ASCOT

The race for the Gold Cup at Ascot was won by a short head by a four-year-old filly, Quashed. Omaha, an American colt, was second.

A SISTER SHIP FOR THE "QUEEN MARY"

Mr. Chamberlain announced in the House of Commons that the Cunard-White Star Company were to use funds under the North Atlantic Shipping Act for the construction of a sister ship to the *Queen Mary*.

19 June

Friday 19

PALESTINE DEBATE

In the House of Commons, Mr. Ormsby-Gore gave a frank account of the situation in Palestine. He said the trouble was racial but not religious. A Royal Commission should be appointed, with an impartial personnel, to inquire into all controversial matters. There was room for both races, but Britain, as a Mandatory Power, could not refuse responsibility for a land which was holy, and therefore a trust for the whole world. He could not accept the Arab demands for a cessation of land transfers and of immigration of the Jews, and for an independent Government. Mr. Lloyd George applauded the Government. He was glad to find that they could stand firm somewhere. The House agreed that order should be restored and a Royal Commission appointed.

SANCTIONS

The French Government has decided to accept the raising of sanctions against Italy. They still remain faithful, however, to the principles of collective security. In Rome, Mr. Eden's speech has aroused feelings of satisfaction, pleasure, tranquillity, and faith in the future. In Berlin it is regarded as a sensible step back to realities. The references to Germany are treated with a certain coolness. There is no inclination to answer the British questions concerning the German peace proposals.

LORD ROBERT CECIL

Lord Robert Cecil has issued a manifesto on behalf of the International Peace Campaign, declaring that the mobilisation of public opinion in support of the League is most urgent.

THE "GIRL PAT"

A trawler with her name obliterated, but identified as the *Girl Pat*, has arrived at Georgetown, short of fuel, and has been held by the police in the Government's ferry-boat. The master, George Black Orsborne, has been arrested for having been in unlawful possession of a ship within British territorial waters. Her crew of three have also been arrested.

THE "HERZOGIN CECILIE"

This evening two small Plymouth tugs towed the *Herzogin Cecilie* off the rocks, where she has lain for the last nine weeks. She has now been brought to Starehole Bay, where temporary repairs can easily be made, through the generosity of a young naval officer who wishes to remain anonymous. The fund

opened by Captain Eriksson, the ship's skipper, has been well supported, and there is every hope that the *Herzogin Cecilie* will soon be sailing the high seas again.

MR. HUXLEY'S NEW BOOK

Mr. Aldous Huxley has published a new novel, called *Eyeless in Gaza*. It expounds with fiery persuasiveness Mr. Huxley's philosophy of pacifism through the experiences of a young man who finally finds in it deliverance from the spiritual thralldom of the modern world. The modern generation is presented as one of unpleasant decadence, described with unsparing attention to detail, emotional, psychological, and biological, running to the length of 600-odd pages.

Sunday 21

THE PARIS STRIKES

The settlement of the strikes in the stores and one-price bazaars was signed at the Ministry of Labour at 7 o'clock this morning. The establishments will open to-morrow. Collective labour contracts, free trade-union organisation, employees' delegates in shops, and paid holidays are agreed upon. When the decision was announced, staffs marched out of the stores to music. In a café in the Boulevard de Magenta there was a pitched battle fought with bottles and crockery between the waiters and cooks, and the owner and his friends. Several people were injured.

THE OPENING OF THE STRAITS CONFERENCE

The signatories to the Lausanne Treaty assembled at Montreux to consider the Turkish proposals for the refortification of the Dardanelles. Italy alone was absent, pending her mollification by the raising of sanctions. Turkey's proposal was prompted by the proclamation of German conscription and by the general wave of rearmament. She is now the Good Boy of Europe, having refrained from tearing up treaties without any by-your-leave.

Monday 22

PALESTINE

A British detachment that was escorting a train from Deir esh Sheikh to Artuf was engaged with Arabs who had placed boulders on the line. Four Arabs were killed. A bomb exploded near the Arimon Cinema in Haifa. Shots were fired at the Carmel Sanatorium. A bridge on the Jericho road was blown up. Seaforth Highlanders and Royal Scots Fusiliers are fighting Arabs in the hills.

22 June

THE FUTURE OF THE STRAITS

Turkey submitted to the Montreux Conference a draft of the proposed new Straits Convention. The main points are:

Turkey would regain the right to fortify and garrison the straits and the islands guarding it.

The International Straits Convention set up to see that the provision about the passage of warships and military aircraft was carried out should be abolished.

The provisions about the passage of warships would be greatly stiffened. The straits would be entirely closed to aircraft, military and civilian.

The Four-Power guarantee to defend the straits and the open zones against attack would lapse.

The general feeling of the conference was that, as the request had been made in so creditable a manner, it should be granted with cordiality.

A NEW FILM

A film of exceptional interest was given a first showing at the New Gallery. It sets out to relate the story of Louis Pasteur and his single-handed struggle for scientific truth. The part of Pasteur is taken by Mr. Paul Muni.

SHAKESPEARE IN REGENT'S PARK

During the last three summers playgoers in London have made their way to Regent's Park for the open-air performances of Shakespeare's plays, whatever the weather. A month ago Mr. Sidney Carroll, the director of the Festival, announced that he could not shoulder the whole financial burden for another season. Since then 6,000 playgoers have between them subscribed the £3,500 needed to guarantee the plays against serious financial loss. To-night, *Henry VIII*, the first play of this year's season, was acted.

THE "NORMANDIE" HIT BY AN AEROPLANE

A torpedo-bomber of the R.A.F. crashed on the foredeck of the French liner *Normandie*. The pilot was unhurt. Before the wreckage could be removed the time came for the boat to sail, and the damaged aeroplane remained where it fell during the voyage to Le Havre.

WIMBLEDON

The All-England Championship began to-day at Wimbledon, when the first round of the singles was decided. F. J. Perry, the

holder, and seven other seeded players, including H. W. Austin, all won through to the second round. Austin played with a new type of streamline racket in which the head, instead of being supported on a single handle, is held by two stays joined to the handle.

Tuesday 23

TROOPING THE COLOUR

The King's forty-second birthday was celebrated in London by the customary ceremony of Trooping the Colour. His Majesty rode a bay horse, wearing the uniform of Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Grenadier Guards. As he reached the saluting base the massed bands played the National Anthem with slow solemnity. After the Royal Inspection, the Escort of the Colour took their stand in the centre of the ground, and the sergeant-major with drawn sword reverently took the crimson King's Colour and handed it to the ensign to be "trooped" by him slowly along the lines. The sun, now shining more strongly, caught the helmets and silver instruments and the new "E VIII R" on the golden tunics. A salute of forty-two guns was fired from Hyde Park as the troops returned to their quarters.

BELGIUM

The Trade Union Committee has decided to appeal to the strikers to resume work to-morrow. They recognise that the strikers' demands are being met by the impending Bills in Parliament to introduce reduction of hours, paid holidays, freedom of association, and family allowances.

Wednesday 24

MR. DUFF COOPER'S SPEECH IN PARIS

Mr. Duff Cooper, Secretary of State for War, was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Association France-Grande Bretagne. In his speech he said that he would like his countrymen to understand more clearly that Franco-British friendship was not a matter of sentiment, but one of necessity, a matter of life and death for both countries. Great Britain entered the last war because her vital interests were at stake, and she was lucky to defend them, not on her own soil, but on that of her neighbour. As Mr. Baldwin had said, the frontier of Great Britain was on the Rhine, but the common ideal which Great Britain shared with France was more precious than a common frontier. The modern tendency to exalt war, to represent liberty as a false ideal, to glorify obedience, was detestable and full of peril. Not only their ideals but their

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frontiers were in mortal danger, and the future of civilisation depended on the two great democracies of Western Europe.

THE STRIKE AT MARSEILLES

At Marseilles there is a great shipping strike which involves about eighty ships. The strike is settled in principle, but it will be some time before work is resumed. The deck and engine-room officers, who have been forced to leave their ships, are reluctant to return until they are sure that discipline will be maintained. It was feared at first that the strike would have lasted for some time, as the crews had made themselves thoroughly comfortable on board, and had ample food-supplies from the ships' stores. In several parts of the country strikes are still spreading.

Thursday 25

PALESTINE

Seaforth Highlanders have again been skirmishing with the Arabs. Several Arabs have been killed and wounded. In Haifa a smoking bomb was discovered in a Jewish omnibus. A passenger carrying a suitcase entered the bus as it was waiting, and, having sat for a few minutes, departed, leaving the case behind. When the driver removed it, it accidentally flew open, revealing two primitive bombs with a smoking fuse. Water was poured on it hastily.

THE STORKS

Yesterday there arrived by Lufthansa at Croydon Aerodrome four large crates containing twenty-three young storks, aged five weeks. Four were sent to the Zoo; the rest were distributed in Kent and placed on cart-wheels, which are provided for their nests. They were given a meal of fish and rabbits, which they relished. Old herons' nests were placed near to provide the necessary sticks for nesting. Of the eggs placed in the herons' nests some weeks ago, eleven were addled; one hatched, but the little stork only lived for a week. The Germans are showing keen interest in the experiment.

THE FASCIST SALUTE

The Vice-Secretary of the Fascist Party in Italy has announced: "It is necessary to remind some comrades that the Roman salute supersedes completely the old and now decadent raising of the hat."

Friday 26

THE AMERICAN ELECTIONS

Mr. Franklin Delano Roosevelt has been nominated Presidential candidate for the Democratic Party. The nominating

speech was received with tremendous enthusiasm. The Republican candidate is Governor Landon. Both parties agree in their home policy of relief, economic security, and the equal opposing of Communism and Fascism. In foreign policy the Democratic Party is more open to free economic relations with the rest of the world.

A GIFT TO LEEDS UNIVERSITY

A gift of £50,000 towards the establishment of a scholarship endowment fund has been offered to Leeds University by Mr. Frank Parkinson, of Messrs. Crompton, Parkinson Ltd., manufacturing electrical engineers.

Saturday 27

PALESTINE

The Arabs are stiffening their resistance. A train was wrecked on the line from Haifa to Lydda to-day. One British soldier was killed and three wounded; the engine-driver and fireman were scalded to death by the steam from the overturned engine.

THE FRENCH STRIKES

The shipping strike at Marseilles has ended. Officers have rejoined their ships, and the red flag has disappeared from the harbour. In the Chamber of Deputies a Deputy of the Right bitterly criticised the Government for allowing the red flag to fly over French ships. The Minister of the Interior replied that the Government had done everything they could to end the strike. There are now only 180,000 strikers in the country.

THE AMERICAN ELECTIONS

President Roosevelt delivered his speech of acceptance of the Democratic Nomination for the Presidency to 110,000 persons. He did not descend to personalities, disappointing those who called for a "fighting speech." He said that since the American Revolution, which was fought for freedom, inventive genius has released new forces which combined to bring forward a new civilisation, and with it a new problem for those who would remain free. "It has been brought home to us," he said, "that the only effective guide for the safety of this most worldly of worlds is a moral principle."

Sunday 28

SIR AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN RESIGNS FROM THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION

Sir Austen Chamberlain has resigned his membership of the League of Nations Union in consequence of his disagreement

28-29 June

on the sanctions issue. In his letter of resignation to Sir Gilbert Murray he said that to continue sanctions would be futile for the purpose for which they were designed, and fraught with peril for the peace of Europe.

TOC H FESTIVAL

For the past three weeks Toc H has been celebrating its Coming of Age. On Saturday there was a garden-party in the grounds of the Crystal Palace, followed by an evening festival at which the Duke of Kent, on behalf of the King, lighted 104 lamps of new branches in many parts of the world. He read a message from the King, who said he looked to Toc H to lift their lamps high to shed their light on the paths of the future.

FASCISTS ATTACKED IN MANCHESTER

There was considerable disorder at Hulme Town Hall, Manchester, at the end of a Fascist meeting which had been addressed by Sir Oswald Mosley. Anti-Fascists attempted to overturn the Fascist vans and to set them on fire. Hand-to-hand fighting occurred, and a police officer was struck on the face with a glass. The meeting itself passed off quietly, but when Sir Oswald left the hall a crowd of between 2,000 and 3,000 rushed round his car booing and shouting.

A BABY CHIMPANZEE

June, the twenty-seven-day-old chimpanzee, made her first public appearance in the Zoo to-day. Most of the time all that could be seen was the leg of her mother, Sally, sticking out of the straw. Finally, however, Sally emerged, and presented her baby by picking it up by the leg.

Monday 29

THE B.B.C.

The Government's decision following the Ullswater Committee report on the B.B.C. is issued in a White Paper. The extension of the charter for ten years is agreed, on the ground that the broadcast service should be conducted by a public corporation acting as trustee for the national interest. Seventy-five per cent of the licence revenue is to be assigned to the B.B.C., with the proviso that if this is not sufficient for the service, the Treasury has the power to increase it. Sponsored programmes should be excluded from the service. The Postmaster-General should continue his functions in connection with the Corporation, and not, as was suggested, transfer his position to a Cabinet Minister.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Mr. Duff Cooper's speech in Paris on 24 June was much criticised to-day in the House of Commons. The Opposition object that it disagrees with the Prime Minister's declaration of policy.

BRISTOL FLOODS

There was a cloudburst at Bristol this afternoon. Between 2.55 and 3.15 p.m., 1.95 inches of rain were recorded. The prisoners' cells at the Central Police Station were flooded, and in the offices of the *Bristol Evening Post* machines were submerged and brought to a standstill.

Tuesday 30

THE KING AND THE NAVY

The King spent a day at Portsmouth inspecting various units of the Royal Navy. At the Vernon Pier he embarked in Motor Torpedo-Boat No. 1, the first of the new high-speed torpedo-boats. The boat is sixty feet long and has a speed of over forty miles an hour. It carries two 18-inch torpedoes, besides guns, and has a crew of eight, with two officers. The King sat in the control station and took great interest in the vessel, which carried out manœuvres at full speed, including the firing of a torpedo at the destroyer *Amazon*, which was hit. Afterwards the King landed at Whale Island to inspect the gunnery school and the boys of H.M.S. *St. Vincent*.

THE ABYSSINIAN EMPEROR AT GENEVA

Abyssinia was discussed at Geneva, where the Emperor Haile Selassie himself in person stated the Abyssinian case. As soon as he advanced to the tribune, whistling and cat-calls were heard from the Press and public galleries which were immediately answered by cheers. The uproar increased in that part of the Press gallery allotted to the Italian journalists, who were finally removed. The Emperor then delivered his speech in Amharic. He spoke particularly of the systematic attempt by the Italians to destroy soldiers, women, children, cattle, rivers, and pastures with mustard gas.

A BRAZIL MYSTERY

News has now been received of Mr. Albert de Winton, who set out in 1934 to seek traces of Colonel Fawcett, the British explorer, who has been missing for eleven years in the far interior of Brazil. His two Indian guides took him into the interior until 22 July, 1934, whence they turned back bearing his last letter describing his travels. The guides would not go further with him because they were entering the country of an

1-2 July

enemy tribe. When news reached Cuyabá, American missionaries went to look for him. From inquiries made among the Indians they learnt that he had been poisoned with an acid drink made from pequi fruits, after which he either died or was murdered. Articles plundered from his baggage were found among the Indians in every place he had visited.

Wednesday 1 July

THE ANGLO-EGYPTIAN CONVERSATIONS

The Anglo-Egyptian conversations, which were started early in the year, have now been resumed.

LONDON UNIVERSITY CENTENARY

This week the University of London celebrates the centenary of its foundation. On 29 June honorary degrees were presented to the Archbishop of Westminster, Dr. J. W. Mackail, Sir Charles Peers, Professor G. M. Trevelyan, Mr. H. G. Wells, Señor Don Ramón Pérez de Ayala (Doctors of Literature), Mr. S. A. Courtauld, Mr. P. M. Evans, Sir Joseph Larmor, Sir George Newman, Lord Snell, Lord Wright (Doctors of Law), Dr. R. Vaughan Williams (Doctor of Music), Professor William Bragg, Professor Max Planck (Doctors of Science).

To-day the Thanksgiving Service at St. Paul's was held, at which the sermon was preached by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Afterwards a reception and luncheon were given by the Corporation of the City of London at the Guildhall. A vast congregation filled St. Paul's as there passed along the central aisle three processions of Professors and Readers in the University, the Lord Mayor of London, the Sheriffs and Corporation, and delegates from sister universities and learned bodies, the Court, the Senate, and the Earl of Athlone, the Chancellor of the University.

The new buildings of the University in Bloomsbury behind the British Museum are now rapidly taking shape.

PALESTINE

Shots were fired at the patrol of the Cameron Highlanders returning to Hebron, and one officer and one N.C.O. were slightly wounded. A collective fine of £2,000 was thereupon imposed on the town.

Thursday 2

WIMBLEDON

In the semi-final round of the All-England Clubs Lawn Tennis Championship, G. von Cramm beat H. W. Austin, and F. J. Perry beat D. Budge.

2-3 July

MR. BALDWIN

Mr. Baldwin, who has been resting for the last few days, returned to the House of Commons to-day, and later in the evening spoke at a dinner of the City Conservative Association. He said there was no truth in the statement that he was breaking up and that his resignation was imminent. "I retire when I think fit," he said. "The first moment that I feel myself to be incapable of sustaining the burden which now rests upon me, I shall be prepared to pass it to other hands, and I shall be no light judge of what the requirements of that position are. But it is for me to decide, and for no one to dictate to me." He then went on to speak about the dangers of sanctions, and observed: "While we all know that we have got to go on, and go on quickly, with this matter of armaments, there is driven in upon us once more, the mad folly of Europe to-day in the expenditure she is making on armaments at the sacrifice of her international trade."

WIMBLEDON

Miss Helen Jacobs and Frau S. Sperling are left in the final round of the All-England Clubs Lawn Tennis Championship.

Friday 3

THE CORONATION

A meeting of the Privy Council was held to-day, when a committee was appointed to deal with the preparations for the Coronation.

PALESTINE

Because of the many incidents of sniping and bomb-throwing in Jaffa, 300 houses in old Jaffa have been demolished by the Royal Engineers. There have been no further complaints except from property-owners.

WIMBLEDON

F. J. Perry for the third time in succession won the Wimbledon Championship. He beat G. von Cramm by 6-1, 6-1, 6-0. The score, however, was not a true indication of the form of the two players, for von Cramm had the bad luck in the second game to strain a muscle in his right thigh, but gallantly continued to the end.

A JAPANESE OFFICER EXECUTED

Lieutenant-Colonel Aizawa was executed this morning, for the murder of Major-General Nagata last August. He was the first Japanese officer to die by a firing-squad.

THE PEKING INCIDENT

For some days a British consular inquiry has been held in Peking concerning the death of the Japanese officer, Sasaki, but the British Consul, Mr. Fitzmaurice, announced that there was not sufficient evidence to frame any charge against either of the British soldiers. Against one of them, however—Private Cooke—a charge of assaulting Onishi, the friend of the dead officer, was taken. Private Cooke pleaded "Not Guilty." In the evidence he produced several soldiers of the Embassy Guard to prove an alibi.

Saturday 4 PALESTINE: THE ADMINISTRATION CRITICISED

The Chief Justice, Sir Michael McDonnell, and Mr. Justice Manning, sitting as the High Court, rejected the application of a resident of Jaffa, who protested against the order served on him for the demolition of his house to make room for one of the new streets across the old city. The Chief Justice said that the demolition was being effected under Article 5 of the Palestine Defence Order in Council, but he severely criticised the way in which the order had been served as showing a "singularly disingenuous lack of moral courage displayed by the administration." It would have been more creditable, he said, if the Government, instead of endeavouring to throw dust in people's eyes by professing to be inspired with æsthetic or other quasi-philanthropic motives, such as those concerned with town planning or public health, in the demolition which was contemplated, had said frankly and truthfully that it was primarily for defensive purposes, which means enabling the forces of the military or police an easier means of access in the congested quarters of the town in question.

It would be a negation of justice if, in a glaring case of evasiveness such as that before us, this High Court did not speak its mind freely. In the exercise of its powers by the Government at any time, frankness is always to be desired. In the exercise of any of the exceptional and drastic emergency powers such as are conferred by the Order in Council in question, the absence of such candour is peculiarly to be deprecated.

GENEVA

It has been agreed by the Assembly of the League by forty-four votes to one (cast by the Ethiopian delegation) that sanctions against Italy shall be ended. M. van Zeeland, the President, in his closing speech, said that the usual end-of-Assembly congratulations would be out of place. The League had suffered

4-5 July

a serious set-back. They had not saved Ethiopia. But fifty nations had taken last autumn a new and great decision and had carried it out loyally and simultaneously.

Sunday 5

MURDERERS IN MADRID

Three days ago two Fascists sitting at a café were shot at and killed from a motor-car. As a reprisal, some Fascists armed with a machine gun opened fire on a crowd of men who were leaving their union headquarters, killing two and injuring five.

PALESTINE

The largest military operations yet attempted against the bands of armed Arabs in the hills have been begun. A cordon of more than 4,000 troops was thrown round an area by the Jerusalem-Nablus road, but no armed bands were discovered.

PARIS

Although many of the French strikes have been settled, there are still about 113,000 men on strike.

GENEVA: SANCTIONS ABANDONED

It has been agreed that the application of sanctions against Italy shall cease on 15 July.

PEKING

At the resumed hearing of the defence the British Consul, Mr. Fitzmaurice, dismissed the charge against Private Cooke of assaulting Onishi.

MR. C. J. MELROSE KILLED

Mr. C. J. Melrose, the airman who won the second prize in the Melbourne Centenary Air Race, was killed near Melbourne in an air crash. In the last two years he had made three flights from England to Australia. In order to compete in the England to Melbourne race he brought his Puss Moth machine by air from Australia. Having won £1,000 for his flight, he flew back to England to take part in the King's Cup Race last year. He was only twenty-two.

A BATHING ACCIDENT

Three men were drowned when they went to help a young girl who was in difficulties when bathing at Tregantle, near Plymouth. She was caught by a current, and a human chain of four civilians and three soldiers was formed. They waded out. Just as they reached the girl a heavy wave broke the chain and four of the men were swept out to sea. Shortly afterwards they

5-7 July

were swept back on to the beach by an incoming wave, and there found to be unconscious. One was saved by artificial respiration, but the other three did not recover.

Monday 6

THE SASAKI CASE

The Japanese in Peking are indignant at the result of the inquiry into the Sasaki case. They accuse the British Consul of chicanery, and allege that Japanese rights are no longer safe in Peking. Tokyo newspapers have from the first assumed the guilt of the accused and treated the court procedure as if it were designed to enable them to escape punishment.

Tuesday 7

THE KING'S HOUSE

The house, costing £50,000, built at Burhill, Surrey, by the Royal Warrant Holders' Association as a Jubilee present to King George, was handed over to King Edward. It will be known as the King's House. It stands in its own grounds overlooking the Surrey hills. By the King's desire the whole proceedings were kept entirely informal, and there were no speeches. With the house there is an endowment fund for future expenses, and the house is to be given by the King to whomsoever he may think worthy because of his services to his country.

THE TOKYO MUTINY

The military tribunal has now ended its sittings, and passed sentence on the mutineers of the February rising. Seventeen were sentenced to death and five to imprisonment for life. The final report says that the mutineers intended to establish a totalitarian State under the direction of the Army. The young officers believed that the time had come for a great effort to exalt the national fortunes and to reconstruct the State. They held that the privileged classes, including the senior statesmen, politicians, financiers, bureaucrats, and Army leaders, must be overthrown. After occupying the War Office the mutineers summoned General Kawashima, the War Minister, and others in the War Office, to assume leadership. When they refused, it was clear that the mutiny had failed, though the mutineers believed that the rest of the Army sympathised with them. On the final day the rebel officers agreed to kill themselves, but only one captain committed hara-kiri, and another this week.

DROUGHT IN AMERICA

There is great distress in America, and the prices of all grains are soaring because of the drought. More than

100,000,000 bushels of wheat have already been ruined by heat, and heavy losses are expected in other grains.

THE PROVOST OF ETON

Lord Hugh Cecil has been appointed Provost of Eton to succeed Dr. M. R. James.

THE FORMER ARCHBISHOP OF ROUEN

The dispute between Mgr. de la Villerabel, formerly Archbishop of Rouen, and the Vatican, has now been settled. Mgr. de la Villerabel has been appointed to the Titular Archbishopric of Mytilene.

THE DANZIG DISPUTE

There have recently been a number of incidents at the free city of Danzig. The Council of the League of Nations therefore summoned Herr Greiser, President of the Danzig Senate, and Mr. Lester, the League High Commissioner, to Geneva. Herr Greiser said that he would speak on behalf of 400,000 Germans who did not wish to regard themselves as bound eternally to the League of Nations when by blood and race they were bound to Germany. He asked why they had ever been separated from Germany. If it was to give Poland access to the sea, then he thought it right and proper that Poland should claim access, but he was tempted to think that Danzig had been separated from Germany in order to create a permanent centre of trouble and friction between Germany and Poland. Mr. Lester answered such points made by Herr Greiser as were relevant. It was his duty, he explained, to administer the statute and to carry out the "paragraphs" which were so obnoxious to Herr Greiser. Later Herr Greiser again spoke, and concluded that "the whole German people looks forward to the time when resolutions will be adopted as a result of which the President of the Senate of the Free City will not be called on to appear before the Council of the League of Nations." Then, rising from his seat—for speeches are delivered seated at the Council—Herr Greiser walked round the table and shook Mr. Eden's hand, after which he gave the Hitler salute. This caused some loud laughter on the part of the Press gallery, and again when Herr Greiser saluted behind the chair of Colonel Beck. Thereupon Herr Greiser paused on his way out in front of the section of the gallery which had laughed at him, raised his hand as if to give the Hitler salute, but, instead, cocked a snook.

7-8 July

DUELLING LEGALISED IN GERMANY

A law is to be passed to regulate affairs of honour in the Reich in such a way that members of officially recognised bodies will have the right to defend their honour with weapons. The bodies concerned are, besides the regular forces, the Storm Troopers (S.A.), the Nazi Guards (S.S.), and other Nazi organisations. Duelling will take place with the permission and under the supervision of military or party "courts of honour."

OLD KATE OF ALDWYCH

Old Kate of Aldwych, the match-seller, who used to sit daily at the Aldwych Corner, has died. She was once an actress, and three times a widow, being left a fortune by each of her husbands, which she spent at Monte Carlo.

Wednesday 8

THE KING INSPECTS R.A.F. STATIONS

The King, accompanied by the Duke of York, visited four R.A.F. stations. He returned to London in the evening, having completed an air tour of just under 300 miles.

A DISASTER IN EGYPT

A bomber-transport machine of the Royal Air Force crashed at Mersa Matruh aerodrome, in the western Egyptian desert, while carrying out night operations. There were thirteen persons in the machine, and of these seven were killed, including three officers of the Army who were passengers. Everyone at Mersa Matruh has been warned not to give any information about the disaster.

A DISASTER AT WOOLWICH

Five were killed in an explosion of the research department at Woolwich Arsenal which occurred in a test hut.

ITALIAN OFFICERS KILLED

It is officially announced in Rome that four out of five members of an Italian reconnaissance party were killed in the Lohemti district of Wallega, in the extreme west of Abyssinia. The party had set out from Addis Ababa in three aeroplanes. On alighting near Lohemti, they were attacked by a band of brigands. One of the Italians—a priest—escaped and gave the news to the Italian military authorities, by whom reprisals have been taken. One of the killed was General Vincenzo Magliocco, Deputy Chief of the Air Force. Another was Major Antonio Locatelli, one of the pioneers of Italian aviation.

MR. ROCKEFELLER'S BIRTHDAY

Mr. J. D. Rockefeller celebrated his ninety-seventh birthday quietly at his Lakewood estate. Apart from a birthday cake large enough to provide slices for all the servants on the estate, there were no festivities. Mr. Rockefeller made a brief statement to the Press, saying, "I know now that I shall live to be a hundred, as I told you several years ago."

THE UNIVERSITY CRICKET MATCH

Cambridge beat Oxford by eight wickets. They made 432 in their first innings. Oxford replied with 209 and 239, thus leaving Cambridge only 17 runs to make in their second innings.

Thursday 9

THE KING AND THE GUARDS

The King inspected the 2nd Battalion of the Coldstream Guards at Wellington Barracks. Rain was falling heavily as he came on to the parade ground and received the royal salute. He immediately gave instructions for the open-air inspection to be cancelled. The battalion accordingly marched past the saluting-base in a column of fours and then paraded in the dining-hall.

THE MONTREUX CONFERENCE

There was some friction at the meeting of the Montreux Conference. The Russians had proposed a clause that the straits should not be closed to warships sent on missions of assistance devolving from agreements supplementary to the Covenant of the League. The British delegation opposed this proposal. M. Titulescu, who was not present, heard what was happening and hastened to the conference table. He asked testily why Great Britain supported mutual assistance pacts at Geneva and opposed them at Montreux. He demanded a definite declaration whether Great Britain was opposed to the operation of such pacts or not, and, banging the table vigorously, insisted that the matter was one of vital importance to Roumania. He then walked out of the conference and left to catch a train for Bucharest without waiting to hear the British reply.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF

Revised Unemployment Assistance regulations have been issued. It is estimated that 200,000 of the existing applicants for assistance will receive increased allowances, but that in about 60,000 cases where allowances are grossly excessive adjustments will be made.

10 July

Friday 10

PARLIAMENT

In the House of Commons to-day, civil liberties were debated, and it was generally said by members of all parties that the present methods of maintaining order at public meetings needed revision. One speaker said that during the war there had been serious lawlessness in London, and there was an outcry in the Press to speed up the Metropolitan Police Force and make it more efficient. As a result they had had a series of very efficient Chiefs of Police, all of whom aimed at reorganisation of the police service. No doubt there had been a clean-up, but in aiming at efficiency there was a real danger of losing the traditional character of the force and of making it more military. The police were accused of siding with the Fascists in the East End. Mr. A. P. Herbert said that he would never be drawn by any political party whose avowed intention it was to wear underclothes of a particular colour. As between black shirts and red shirts, he was among those who cried, "A plague on both your blouses!" He asked the Home Secretary whether he would give instructions that ejections from public meetings should only be made by the police, and, referring to what happened at a typical Fascist meeting, he said the speaker started by issuing threats that anyone who interrupted would be thrown out, and there were present numbers of menacing uniformed men drilled in the technique of violence, if interruptions occurred. At a signal, or without a signal, some wretched undergraduate or worker would be seized by about ten of these trained ruffians—some, he was informed, with knuckle-dusters and chains round their wrists—and hurled out to the accompaniment of rabbit-punches and kicks in the regions of the liver, kidneys, or any other organs of which these gentlemen might happen to be aware. He did not wish to dignify the individual whose name was in everybody's mind by passing special legislation, but would it not be possible for the existing law to show that by training these men to do these things that individual was chargeable with the indictable misdemeanour of unlawful assembly or illegal conspiracy?

ADDIS ABABA

General Graziani has issued a decree that all wireless stations in Addis Ababa other than that belonging to the Government must close down. The Italian wireless will henceforth be the sole means of transmission of public and private messages.

BERLIN: AN AGREEMENT WITH AUSTRIA

Dr. Goebbels, Propaganda Minister, in a wireless broadcast said:

"I have been authorised by the Reich Government to make known the following *communiqué* about an agreement which was concluded yesterday between the German and Austrian Governments. It represents a considerable practical step towards a peaceful disentanglement and relaxation of tension in the European situation. I will now read the text of the official *communiqué*:

" 'Convinced that they are thereby rendering a valuable contribution towards the peaceful development of Europe, and believing that they are thereby doing the best service to the various common interests of the two German States, the Government of the German Reich and the Government of the Austrian Federal State have decided to restore normal and friendly mutual relations.

" 'It is therefore declared:

" '(1) In the sense of the statement made by the *Führer* and Reich Chancellor on 21 May, 1935, the German Government recognises the full sovereignty of the Federal State of Austria.

" '(2) Each of these two Governments shall regard the internal political conditions of the other country, including the question of Austrian National-Socialism, as a domestic concern of that country, upon which it will exert neither direct nor indirect influence.

" '(3) The Austrian Federal State Government's general policy, and its policy towards Germany in particular, shall be constantly guided by the principle that Austria recognises herself to be a German State. The Rome Protocol of 1934, together with its additional clauses of 1936, and the relations of Austria to Italy and Hungary as partners in the said Protocol, are not hereby affected.'

"Recognising that the relaxation of tension desired by both parties can be brought about only if, in addition, certain preliminary conditions are established by the Governments of both countries, the Reich Government and the Austrian Federal Government shall in a series of detailed measures create these required preliminary conditions."

A GERMAN COMMUNIST SENTENCED TO DEATH

Edgar André, a German ex-Service man, formerly leader of a district branch of the Communist Red Front in Berlin, was

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sentenced to death in Hamburg. All the offences were committed during a period of Nazi-Communist street fighting, when people of both sides were killed.

Saturday 11

HADRIAN'S WALL

Members of the University of Durham Excavation Committee have unearthed a dedication plaque at Halton Chesters, near Newcastle, which indicates that the building of the Great Wall from start to finish was completed within five years. The dedication bears the name of Platorius Nepos, Governor of Britain A.D. 122-6, who also directed the first stages of the wall building.

Sunday 12

NIGHT WATCH AT VERDUN

In commemoration of the Battle of Verdun, which was begun by the German attack of 12 February, 1916, some tens of thousands of French and Allied ex-soldiers gathered at Verdun to-day to renew their oath to defend peace. Special trains, omnibuses, and motor-cars, carrying thousands who had fought in the battle, began to arrive at Verdun last night, and to-day the roads were choked with new arrivals.

A symbolic torch, lit from the flame burning under the Arc de Triomphe, was brought from Paris to Rheims last night under the escort of a guard of ex-soldiers. It was left at the Rheims War Memorial during the night, and ex-soldiers kept watch over it. This afternoon it was brought to Verdun, at the head of an enormous procession, which included M. Rivi re, Minister of Pensions.

Late this evening the vigil outside the ossuary at Douaumont began. An ex-soldier made a moving appeal for silence. His words were immediately followed by the tolling of the funeral bell. The soldier carrying the symbolic torch mounted the steps leading up to the memorial and lit the lamp burning at their top. Then, after the bugles had sounded the "Sonnerie aux Morts" (the French equivalent of the "Last Post"), each man dropped a flower on the grave near which he stood, and murmured, "For the peace of the world." The words were repeated three times, and finally by a child standing alone amid the vast crowds.

The most moving oath of all was that taken by a disabled ex-Service man and repeated by all present. "Because those who rest here and elsewhere," he said, "have gone to the peace of the dead only to establish the peace of the living, and because it would be sacrilege for us to allow what the dead abhor, we

swear to safeguard and to will the peace which we owe to their sacrifices." Again the bugles rang out, and the silent vigil began.

Monday 13

MADRID: DON JOSÉ SOTELO MURDERED

Don José Calvo Sotelo, the outstanding political figure of the Spanish Right, who was Finance Minister during the dictatorship of the Marqués de Estella, was murdered by a crowd of men wearing the uniform of the Shock Police. Shortly after 3 o'clock in the morning a police van with an officer and eight or ten men drove up to his house. Señor Sotelo was asked to accompany them to the police headquarters. He protested that as a deputy he could not be arrested, and that in any case the police had no warrant for the arrest. The officer, however, showed his credentials and was obdurate. Señor Sotelo then dressed and went away. No one knows how he was killed, but at a quarter to five the same police van drove up to the door of the East Cemetery, on the outskirts of Madrid, and Señor Sotelo's body was handed over to the officials at the cemetery. The police told the officials that it was the body of a night-watchman who had been killed in the street. It had been stabbed with bayonets and the head so beaten that it was almost unrecognisable. There is great alarm, as no order was given for the arrest, and a large number of police are mobilised. The crime is apparently an incident in the brutal gangster warfare between political parties which has caused many deaths since February. It is thought to be in revenge for the death of Lieutenant Castillo, who was murdered on the previous night by four men armed with automatics as he was entering his home. It is rumoured that a number of policemen took an oath before the dead body, which was lying in state at police headquarters, to avenge him by the murder of Señor Sotelo.

AN INSURANCE CASE

Mr. Justice Swift gave judgment in favour of the plaintiff, suing as administratrix of a person who had committed suicide and who was found by the jury to have been sane at the time, to recover under a policy of assurance which he had taken out a number of years ago. The judge held that there was no doctrine of public policy which prevented judgment being given for the plaintiff. The case concerned a Major Rowlandson. In August 1934 he owed some £68,000 and had no money coming in. He could not pay the premiums which became due

13-14 July

on policies in June, and the date for payment was extended by arrangement with the company until 3 August, 1934. These policies lapsed at 3 p.m. unless Major Rowlandson could find £400, the amount of premium which was due. He could not find the money, and at three minutes to three he shot himself in a taxi-cab.

Tuesday 14

SPAIN

Various political factions buried their dead in Madrid to-day. First Republican Socialists and police met for the funeral of Lieutenant Castillo, whose body was saluted with the clenched fist as it was lowered to the grave. Later, at the same cemetery, Señor Calvo Sotelo was buried, and the Monarchist leader Señor Goicoechea made a speech in which he said that he took an oath before God and before Spain to avenge this terrible murder. There seems no doubt that the murderers were members of the Shock Police.

JAPAN

The Tokyo correspondent of *The Times*, commenting on the recent troubles in the Japanese Army, says that between 1932 and 1936 two questions agitated the fighting services. One was the demand for naval equality, and the other the mysterious, and, to a foreigner, incomprehensible, national polity issue. Party statesmen who accepted the inferior naval ratio had sinned against Japan's unique national polity by taking on themselves decisions which were the prerogative of the supreme command. The national polity dispute established the principle that the Army and the Navy are not controlled by the Cabinet, but directly by the Emperor through the two General Staffs. In effect, it is now laid down that the fighting services exercise self-government in their own administration, and have a voice which must be heard in all that concerns national defence nearly or remotely, including foreign policy. The Washington and London Treaties have been abandoned, and the Navy is free to build as many ships as it likes. Those issues do not explain the February revolt. They had been settled. The trial of Lieutenant-Colonel Aizawa for the murder of Lieutenant-General Nagata made it clear that the unrest was only incidentally connected with specific grievances like those mentioned, and was essentially a revolutionary movement aspiring to bring about a form of National Socialism. Such ideas were first taken up by the Army about fourteen years ago. In 1922 the Army on a peace footing mustered 308,000 men. By 1925

it had been reduced to 230,000. Thus thousands of officers were thrown on the employment market, and those who remained were scared. The Army had been worsted by the politicians and did not like the experience.

About that time General Mazaki became head of the Military College and continued to be the guiding spirit of military education till last July, when he was abruptly dismissed. General Mazaki taught the doctrine of the uniqueness of the Japanese nation: a people descended from the gods and ruled over by a dynasty which had endured since the beginning of the world and would continue for ever. He taught that Japan had a divine mission to extend peace and civilisation: and he taught, above all, that the essential feature of the Japanese State was direct rule by a divinely descended Emperor. These doctrines are to be found in the Japanese Constitution and in the utterances of the great statesmen who founded modern Japan. But those statesmen were realists; they interpreted their inherited traditions with reverence, but in the light of facts. Mazaki and his twin spirit, Araki, are fundamentalists.

The young officers began to apply their teaching to the hard realities of life in Japan. As professional soldiers they had seen their careers circumscribed by the acts of party Government. As young Japanese they found themselves in a society in which the early *élan* of a national renaissance was dying down. It was becoming harder to get on in life. The universities were pouring out graduates who no longer found work almost automatically. A new factory proletariat was pullulating in the cities, marching in May Day processions, listening to Communist agitators. The farms, the nurseries of the Army, were waterlogged with debts and surplus humanity. The ideas of Marx, interpreted in an authoritarian form congenial to minds trained to distrust democracy, entered into this discontent like yeast, and out of the ferment the Showa Restoration movement was born. It wants a new kind of government. Political power is to be taken from the politicians, and economic power from the capitalists. Both are to be restored to the Emperor, who will in future exercise them through other members of the national family. In describing revolution as restoration, the young officers are faithfully following traditional technique. The last great Japanese revolution was a restoration of Imperial power, and represented itself at first as a reversion to older and purer forms of government.

Emperor-worship is a kind of national religion, sanctified

14 July

by tradition and deeply rooted in Japanese sentiment, but its modern form, professed by the Showa Restorationists, is simply German nineteenth-century State-worship. Aizawa's cry for the restoration of economic power to the Emperor is the Japanese variant of Marx's proposal that the means of wealth shall be owned by the State. Only the extremists go so far into Imperial Socialism as Aizawa. General Terauchi, the Minister for War, was speaking, however, in the name of the Army when he warned Mr. Hirota that a Cabinet based on *laissez faire* and Liberalism was unfit to deal with the national emergency.

When Manchukuo was founded, General Araki promised that the heavy military expenditures would not be necessary for more than two or three years. In the fifth year they are still increasing, and the public has been told that they will continue to rise. "Liberalism" has only been able to finance those expenditures by borrowing. In five years the national debt has risen from 7,000,000,000 to 10,000,000,000 yen. "Liberalism" has been repudiated; its exponents in finance have been killed; and yet the new Finance Minister can only promise heavier taxation and a continuance of borrowing. The Showa Restorationists, who demanded relief for the farmer, are in a dilemma. The farmer can only be relieved if the central Government reduces his taxation. But how can that be done if the fighting services continue to need all the money that the Government can tax or borrow?

The Showa Restoration movement is, fundamentally, the Japanese response to the modern revolutionary impulse. The "divine discontent" which impels it along is aroused, here as everywhere else, by the contrast between the wealth of society and the poverty of individuals. It is not Communism, and it is not the New Deal, but it shares their faith that miracles can be wrought if only the State controls the economic machinery. In other nations the clamour of the masses for a fuller life inspires the demand for greater diffusion of wealth. In Japan, where conditions and background are different, it comes as a need for greater Government revenues to promote the security and welfare of the nation by military means. It differs from the movement of the West, and is truly Japanese, in that it originates with those professing authority and not with those subject to authority. The rebels are Army officers, because in Japan the warrior class has been the leading and ruling class.

The extreme section of the movement will doubtless be

stamped out. The young officers may be, as General Araki said to the writer, "the flower of the Army," but the flare-up of armed rebellion under the very walls of the palace was too much, and the Army is in earnest in its determination to suppress mutiny and political agitation. It is less certain that the broad movement towards State Socialism can be stopped. Possibly it cannot be stopped anywhere. What capitalism has to fear is not Socialist propaganda, but the destruction by capitalist Governments of that free exchange of goods which is the life-blood of the capitalist system. And in Japan, if State Socialism comes, it will come because a system of taxation based on *laissez faire* and private enterprise cannot find the funds the soldiers need, and because the closing of foreign markets is screwing down the safety-valve for Japan's pent-up millions.

Japanese capital is already largely concentrated in the hands of a few great families, and its transfer to the State could probably be accomplished without disastrous social upheaval. But the foreign reader cannot forget the direction from which the pressure comes, and the purpose for which increased State revenues are sought. Since 1931 the nation has been made familiar with the idea of a Continental policy. Foreign diversions appeal to harassed Governments. Japanese claims in East Asia may not be much longer delayed.

A RECORD PRICE FOR A DRAWING

The sale of 700 Old Master drawings collected by the late Mr. Henry Oppenheimer ended at Christie's rooms. They had cost him under £45,000, and realised £91,915. The drawing of an ecclesiastic by Jean Fouquet fetched 10,200 guineas, which is the record for a drawing in any sale-room.

Wednesday 15

THE "HERZOGIN CECILIE"

The fate of the *Herzogin Cecilie*, now lying at Starehole, is still very uncertain. Captain Eriksson told a reporter that the ship's keel was broken and her general state much worse than when they were at Sewer Mill Cove, where she went aground. The damage was done last week when the wind turned south-east and a heavy swell washed over the vessel.

Thursday 16

THE KING AND THE GUARDS: AN ALARMING INCIDENT
At 11 o'clock this morning the King presented new colours

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to six battalions in the Brigade of Guards in Hyde Park with traditional ceremonial. The parade over, the King rode back to Buckingham Palace at the head of the troops. He had just passed the Quadriga Arch when a man pushed his way through the crowd and raised a hand holding a revolver. It seemed that he was about to fire, but at the moment a mounted constable guarding the line of march casually moved forward and so blocked the line of fire. The man thereupon threw his revolver at the King, and it fell at the feet of the King's charger. The revolver was found to be loaded in four chambers. Police immediately seized the man and carried him off. In the afternoon he was brought up at Bow Street and gave his name as George Andrew McMahon, a journalist. He was remanded.

CANADA

About 5,000 pilgrims assembled at Montreal from all parts of the Dominion on their way to attend the unveiling by the King of the Canadian War Memorial at Vimy Ridge. They are coming over on four liners which were escorted down the St. Lawrence by the Canadian destroyers *Saguenay* and *Champlain*.

MISS RENEE HOUSTON

Five students of Edinburgh University, charged with assaulting Miss Renee Houston last April, were tried at the Edinburgh Sheriff Court. The charges against three were dropped; two were found guilty, of whom one was fined £5 and the other £3, with the alternative of imprisonment. The fines were paid in court.

UNITED STATES HEAT WAVE

For the last few days there has been a great heat wave in New York and the eastern States of America, and it is estimated that the deaths directly and indirectly caused by this excessive weather are nearly 4,000.

Saturday 18

TROUBLE IN SPAIN FEARED

Apparently serious trouble has broken out in Spain, as all telephone communication has ceased.

THE MONTREUX CONFERENCE

After much argument, agreement has been reached at Montreux on the Turkish demand, and a new Straits Convention has now been unanimously adopted. By this agreement Turkey is authorised to fortify the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus. The straits are open to commercial vessels, but there are drastic

limitations on the size and number of foreign warships of external Powers allowed in peace-time to enter the straits or to gather in the Black Sea. States within the Black Sea retain their right in peace-time to send out their warships almost without hindrance. The Convention recognises the law of the League of Nations as supreme, in that it leaves the last word about the opening or closing of the straits to the League. The Turks will continue the provision of the Lausanne Treaty for the maintenance and supervision of the Allied War Graves at Gallipoli.

Sunday 19

REVOLT AGAINST THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT

Yesterday morning the Government announced that a rebellion had broken out in Morocco. Melilla, Tetuan, and Ceuta are held by rebel troops. In Spain itself the rebels have had successes at Seville, Saragossa, Pamplona, and other places. In Madrid during the night of Saturday-Sunday the Cabinet resigned. The President then called on Señor Martinez Barrio to assume the office of Prime Minister. Señor Barrio reconstructed the Cabinet, but later in the day resigned from the Premiership, to be succeeded by Señor José Giral. The Union Militia are now policing the streets of Madrid in lorries, taxis, or on foot, accompanied by girls who stop and search ladies with scrupulous politeness. As yet all news is censored. It appears that the mutineers, led by General Franco, have the upper hand in Morocco, where three warships sent to restore order have joined them.

PALESTINE

Yesterday a large bomb was found buried in the sand at Tel Aviv beach, where later hundreds of Jews would have been spending the Sabbath basking in the sun. The discovery was made by a small boy who tripped over a wire, one end of which was found to lead to a detonator fixed in a large charge of explosive, and the other to a group of shacks 400 yards away.

Monday 20

SPAIN

The Madrid Government reports that the back of the rebellion was broken this morning, and the last card in the conspiracy was played by the insurrection of the greater part of the Madrid garrison. The movement was totally defeated after a few hours' fighting. Two infantry regiments in the capital and other troops in the neighbouring camps marched out at an early hour, but were met by loyal regular forces of the Shock Police. At 11 o'clock the white flag was everywhere raised.

General Fanjul, former Deputy in the Cortes, was captured in arms. General Herraz is among the dead. It is officially stated that over 1,000 officers are prisoners.

THE JARROW MARCH TO LONDON

There have recently been proposals to set up a steel-works at Jarrow to relieve the distress and unemployment there, but these have now fallen through. Jarrow Town Council have, therefore, decided to organise a march to London to present a petition to the Government.

THE OLYMPIC GAMES

A start was made at Olympia, in Greece, with the Olympic Games, which are held this year in Berlin. As buglers sounded the reveille at dawn from the top of Mount Kronion, a crowd surged into the sacred precincts to listen to preliminary speeches. At noon M. Constantine Kondylis, the first torch-bearer, went up to the special altar in the stadium on which the sacred fire was burning; it had been kindled by the sun's rays, focused through a lens in the ruins of the Temple of Zeus. M. Kondylis took the oath to keep the laws of the Olympiad for the benefit of mankind and the progress of civilisation. The torch was lit at the altar and handed to him by a girl, and he then set off on the first kilometre stage accompanied by twenty-four honorary torch-bearers.

A SCULPTOR'S CIGARS

About ninety years ago the sculptor Thomas von Schwanthaler modelled and cast some statues in bronze at Munich for transport to Vienna. The sculptor was an ardent cigar-smoker, and, to avoid the heavy Austrian duty, he filled his statues with boxes of cigars sealed in tin sheeting. Unfortunately, on the journey between Munich and Vienna he caught cold, and by the time he was well the figures, firmly cemented and mounted, had been set up in the Freyung Square. Now that repairs are to be made to the statues there is some excitement concerning the fate of the cigars.

Tuesday 21

SPAIN: CONFUSING REPORTS

News from Spain is still confused. The insurgents apparently control important centres in various parts of the country. A large force of insurgents under General Mola is said to be marching on Madrid from the north, and another body under General Queipo de Llano is advancing northward from Seville.

The rebels themselves announce that the Government are in full control only in Madrid and Barcelona.

A ROYAL RECEPTION

An afternoon reception was held by the King in the grounds of Buckingham Palace, when about three hundred *débutantes* were due to be presented before the King. The King took his seat with members of the Royal Family sitting behind him, and the procession of *débutantes* started. After about half an hour a slight drizzle began, which soon developed into heavy rain. The King left his chair to look at the sky. The Lord Chamberlain at once stopped the stream of *débutantes*, and, after a brief conversation with the King, announced that His Majesty had ordered the party to be abandoned. Later it was officially announced that those ladies summoned to the afternoon reception who, owing to the interruption of the ceremony by the weather, were unable to be presented, were considered as having been officially presented at Court.

THE KING'S HOLIDAY

The King has changed his holiday plans. It is now said that after unveiling the Vimy Ridge Memorial he will return to England and stay in the country for a few days. Later he will go abroad to Cannes.

THE OLYMPIC GAMES

The Olympic torch, on its way from Corinth, reached Athens about 6.30 in the evening, having been carried along the Sacred Way by relays of runners. It was taken to the Theseion, where other runners, dressed in the classical chiton, carried it to the Propylæa of the Acropolis. Here its bearer was challenged by an artist in classical priestly robes. The runner replied, "I come from Olympia bearing the fire from the Temple of Zeus." He then entered the Acropolis, where the priest kindled the fire on an altar erected before the Parthenon, which was surrounded by fifty-two *Evzones* of the Royal Guard bearing the flags of the nations taking part in the games, and twenty girls dressed as priestesses of the Temple of Athene, who showered flowers on the altar. Thence the torch was carried by successive runners, including a former Marathon Winner, down to the Stadium, where it was awaited by the King and many thousands of people. As it entered the Stadium, the torch was taken by M. Kotzias, the Demarch of Athens, to an altar which was surrounded by girls wearing costumes of all periods from Minoan and Mycenæan times down to Byzantine. On this altar a fire was

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kindled from the Olympic flame, while the National Anthem was played and batteries on Mont Lykabettos fired a salute. The torch was then taken to the Unknown Warrior's Monument, where the lamp was lit from it.

THE ADVENTURES OF THE "GIRL PAT"

Mr. Harry Stone, the mate of the Grimsby trawler *Girl Pat* who is now back in England, told the story of the adventures of the trawler. At Dakar they were shipwrecked forty-five miles west of Blanco, where they were fast on a sand-bank for a day and a night. The crew could not stay aboard, and had to get into a small boat and wait until the vessel floated. Five hours later they struck another shoal, and lightened the vessel by shifting the ballast of pig-iron forward. They rowed some distance out with the anchor, dropped it into the sea, and, by pulling on the anchor-chain, managed to bump the ship off. It is quite true, and not a joke, that they had used a sixpenny atlas for navigation purposes. They estimated their position with the atlas by drawing a line from Grimsby and working out their positions according to their speed. They left England on 1 April, an appropriate day.

Wednesday 22

SPAIN: THE REBELLION

There has been bitter fighting at Barcelona, where the troops supporting the rebels have been defeated after an all-day fight. General Goded, who had secretly arrived from Majorca to lead the movement, surrendered. The crowd of Government supporters celebrated their victory by burning such churches and convents as still survive. The Government of Barcelona is now faced with the problem of an armed proletariat in possession of the city. General Mola, with a column of rebel troops, is said to be within thirty-six miles of Madrid.

A NEW CATHEDRAL AT GUILDFORD

The foundation-stone of the new cathedral at Guildford was laid by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

FOUR CLIMBERS KILLED

Four climbers, two Austrian and two German, have been killed while trying to climb the hitherto unscaled north face of the Eiger. At first all went well, but on Monday night they were caught in a storm. Yesterday they continued the ascent in spite of the weather, and made very little progress, until in the afternoon it was noticed by some people who had been watching

them through telescopes that two had fallen, but remained hanging from a rope, apparently attached to rings screwed into the rock face. Snow fell during the night and the temperature was well below freezing. Next morning the four men could still be seen hanging from their ropes, but only one seemed to be alive. In the meantime four of the best guides had reached the spot. They talked to the only survivor, who said that one of his companions had fallen and been killed; the second had been dragged down and strangled by the rope; the third was dead from cold. A rope was lowered, to which he attached himself, and the guides hauled him up, but when he reached the distance of fifteen feet from them they noticed that he did not move any more. He had died from exposure.

A SNAKE KILLS FIFTY

A snake attempted to crawl into a crowded ferry-boat crossing the Ramganga River in the United Provinces of India. The ferry-boat passengers crowded to one side of the ferry, which capsized. Only ten were saved out of about sixty passengers.

Thursday 23

PARLIAMENT

The longest sitting of the House of Commons since 1881 began at 4 o'clock yesterday and ended at midnight the next night after a thirty-two hours' discussion. During the course of the debate three members of the Independent Labour Party were suspended for abusing Sir John Simon, the Home Secretary. The matter under discussion was the Unemployment Assistance regulations.

SPAIN

The situation in Spain is as obscure as ever. Both sides announce steady progress, but it is clear that a bloody civil war is raging over a large part of the country. Everywhere the fighting seems to be bitter and merciless, neither side showing any quarter. French tourists from Pamplona say that they themselves saw the public execution of fifteen Communists.

Friday 24

SPAIN

Both sides issue optimistic reports of crushing defeats inflicted on the other. The Government are organising a new force to meet the rebel forces advancing on Madrid. President Azaña broadcast a message to the nation, denouncing the rebels as guilty of a horrible crime that is breaking the hearts of Spaniards.

24-26 July

THE CASE OF McMAHON

The case against McMahon was opened at Bow Street Police Court. He was originally charged with having in his possession a loaded revolver, with the intent of injuring life and property. Two further charges are now added: that he wilfully presented near to the person of the King a firearm—to wit, a revolver—with intent to break the public peace; and that he, near the person of the King, wilfully produced a firearm—to wit, a revolver—with intent to alarm the King. After the Attorney-General's opening speech a number of witnesses were called for the prosecution, and the case was adjourned for a week.

TIM

The Astronomer Royal formally started the Post Office speaking clock system, by which a subscriber in the London area, on dialling TIM, is automatically told the time, day or night, in the voice of the winner of the Golden Voice Competition.

A NEW KIND OF BOOK

A new kind of detective book has been published. The reader is supplied with the necessary clues in the form of police reports, criminal dossiers, fingerprints, match-ends, human hair, and blood-stained chintz, from which he may solve the problem for himself.

JOURNALISTIC SUSCEPTIBILITIES

About a fortnight ago an article in *The Times* on Russia compared that country to a hippopotamus. But the *Pravda* objects that the hippopotamus, according to the Russian dictionary, is a "bog-cow," and therefore a meaningless term for the Soviet Union, as Soviet Russia does not give the capitalists milk.

Sunday 26

THE KING AT VIMY RIDGE

The King unveiled the Canadian National Memorial on Vimy Ridge to the men who died in France and have no known grave. Many hundreds of Canadians who fought in the war were present, all by general consent wearing khaki berets. The King arrived soon after 2 o'clock. The National Anthem and "O Canada" were played, and he received M. Lebrun, President of the French Republic, who was saluted by the "Marseillaise," and on the dais a service was held, of which part was the lament, "The Flowers of the Forest." Mr. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, then transmitted a message by

Transatlantic telephone. After other speeches, the King was invited to unveil the memorial. He began his speech in French, and then, in English, he spoke of the sacrifice of the Canadian armies, and concluded:

"By a gesture which all can understand, the soldiers especially, the laws of France have decreed that here Canada shall stand for ever. We raise this memorial to Canadian warriors. It is the inspired impression in stone, chiselled by a skilful Canadian hand, of Canada's salute to her fallen sons. It marks the scene of feats of arms which history will long remember, and Canada can never forget. And the ground it covers is the gift of France to Canada. All the world over there are battlefields, the names of which are written indelibly on the pages of our troubled human story. It is one of the consolations which time brings that deeds of valour done on those battlefields long survive the quarrels which drove the opposing hosts to conflict.

"Vimy will be one such name. Already the scars of war have well-nigh vanished from the fair landscape spread before us. Around us here to-day there is peace and the rebuilding of hope. And so also, in dedicating this memorial to our fallen comrades, our thoughts turn rather to the splendour of their sacrifice and to the consecration of our love for them, than to the cannonade which beat upon its ridges a score of years ago.

"In that spirit, in the spirit of thankfulness for their example, of reverence for their devotion, and of pride in their comradeship, I unveil this memorial to Canada's dead."

"Last Post" was sounded, and the two minutes' silence was observed. Then, after the reveille, the President of the French Republic spoke. After the ceremony the King passed down the ranks of spectators and spoke to many of them. He returned to England by air in the evening.

THE SCULPTOR'S CIGARS

The Superintendent of Ancient Monuments in Vienna has decided that the statues in the Freyung Square do not need renovation, and so von Schwanthaler's cigars will remain where they are. The expert opinion, however, is that the interior of a bronze statue in a public square in summer is so hot that the Havana leaf would have crumbled long ago.

Monday 27

AN EXPLOSION AT MASSAWA

An official *communiqué* in Rome states that there was an explosion at a munitions dump near Massawa, in Eritrea. The explosion was caused by spontaneous combustion caused by the

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great heat. No great damage was done either to the aerodrome or to houses near by. Ten persons were slightly wounded.

Passengers arriving at Aden from Massawa say that about 400 persons were killed by the explosion, and that the fire burned for twelve hours. The inhabitants of Massawa were so panic-stricken that they took refuge in the sea.

A NEW PLAY

On the Rocks, a new play by Bernard Shaw, was produced at the Malvern Festival.

Tuesday 28

SPAIN: THE CIVIL WAR

The Spanish Civil War at the moment seems to have taken a turn in favour of the Madrid Government, which has been completely successful in Barcelona. In the south, Communists still hold Malaga, but the insurgents hold most of Andalusia. In Asturias there was bitter fighting at Oviedo. The Basque country is divided; the rebels have failed to hold San Sebastian, but are strong at Pamplona. They have set up a rival Government at Burgos, and are heartily supported by the people of Navarre. Most of the Navy is on the Government side, which prevents the Moroccan army from reinforcing its friends in Andalusia, but it is hampered by lack of fuel and bases, since Ferrol and Cadiz are in the hands of the insurgents. Many officers have been arrested or murdered. Everywhere there is great loss of life, for the fighting, whether by troops or armed civilians, is pitiless.

THE NEW LINER

The new Cunard-White Star liner, which is to be a sister ship to the *Queen Mary*, will be built on the Clyde. At present she will be known as No. 552, and it is reckoned that in her construction about 300,000 people will indirectly be given employment.

MURDER AT THE LOUDSPEAKER

In an effort to educate the people of the North-West Frontier Province on the futility of murder as a means of reprisal for personal grievances, the broadcasting station at Peshawar arranged for talks deploring the habit and showing how it undermined established authority. In one village a large throng gathered round the community's receiving set. The reception was hindered by the local wag, who maintained a running commentary of his own. This was resented by a fellow-villager, who indicated that he was anxious to learn about the disadvantages of murder as a method of solving personal disputes, but,

as the wag persisted in the interruptions, the aggrieved listener drew a knife from his belt and stabbed him in the stomach.

Wednesday 29

"THE TIMES" ON THE CAUSES OF THE
SPANISH WAR

The victory of the Left last February was followed by a general increase of political crime and social disorder. Church-burning and political assassinations (on both sides) were revived. Extremists demanded the abolition of the Army and the police. The Army grew frightened and angry, and military conspiracy spread quickly after the murder of Señor Sotelo by the Government Shock Police.

The real tragedy of Spain is its intolerance. Political intolerance has taken the place of the religious intolerance of earlier ages, and its victims bid fair to be far more numerous. With this psychology, which prevents the formation of any truly democratic party, the outlook in Spain cannot but be black. There is no evidence that the soldiers at Burgos or the Right Wing politicians have any real cure for the lawlessness, ignorance, and black poverty which are the curse of their country. Most of the extremist parties are devotees of one form or another of dictatorship, Right or Left, and it is safe to prophesy that the arming of the masses, who already had a fair supply of weapons, will confront Madrid with fresh difficulties in the event of victory. Extremists who support President Azaña to-day may be his deadly enemies to-morrow. Nor is the Frente Popular really united. On economic issues Socialists and Anarcho-Syndicalists stand far apart; and their divisions, which have led to bloodshed in the past and may do so again, may well further the success of the Communists, who are known to be receiving abundant help from Moscow. Agitators trained in the Russian schools, Soviet journalists and observers, have been entering Spain constantly and unobtrusively since February, and it is significant that the prominent Russian Communists foretold so long ago as the spring that Spain would be in a state of chaos by July. Their expectations are uncannily precise, and have been fulfilled to the letter. The political confusion which Lenin indicated as the propitious moment for the proletarian insurrection has descended upon Spain; and, whatever the military outcome of the present struggle, ruthless dictatorship seems its inevitable consequence. More than murders and reprisals, more than vandalism, oppression, and civil war, that is the tragedy of Spain.

29-31 July

THE CANADIAN PILGRIMS

Many of the Canadian pilgrims present at Vimy Ridge last Sunday visited Westminster Hall, and were welcomed to London by Mr. Baldwin in the morning. Afterwards they marched in their long columns to the Cenotaph, where the Bishop of London conducted a service. In the afternoon they were guests at a reception in the grounds of Buckingham Palace, at which the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester acted as hosts. The King unexpectedly joined them for nearly an hour, and, after going back to the palace, he spoke to them from a balcony. The whole reception was informal and friendly, and the Canadian visitors were able to wander about the grounds at will.

Thursday 30

THE KING'S HOLIDAY

The King has chartered Lady Yule's yacht *Nahlin* for a holiday cruise along the Dalmatian coast and the Eastern Mediterranean. An equerry and private secretary will accompany him on his cruise, so that he can attend to state business. He will be away for three or four weeks.

SPAIN: OFFICERS EXECUTED

General Carrasco, formerly Military Governor of San Sebastian and leader of the insurgents, with eighteen or twenty senior officers of the garrison, has been shot by order of the chiefs of the Frente Popular. armed

TROUBLES IN VIENNA

Some days ago the Government granted a far-reaching amnesty releasing several hundred Nazi prisoners. This was taken as a sign of weakness, and has led to an immediate outbreak of Nazi activity throughout the country. At Linz liberated Nazis were transported home in triumph through flower-strewn streets. Yesterday there was further trouble in Vienna, when there was a demonstration carried out by thousands of people in perfect co-ordination—an impressive proof of the secret strength of the Nazi organisation.

Friday 31

RED RULE IN BARCELONA

Barcelona is under a reign of terror. The extremists are out of hand and "purification squads" have assassinated many supporters of the Right, including priests and nuns. The watchword is, "It is necessary to stamp out Fascism and its friends." On 27 July a large motor-car drove through a suburb of Barcelona carrying three armed men and six women. When the car

returned later without the women, a search was made, and the bodies of four were found in the undergrowth. Another was too seriously wounded to be moved. The sixth was still unconscious. The women were nuns of the Dominican Convent of Barcelona, and had been taken thence on the pretext that they were to be put in a safe place. A captain of the Shock Police attempted to impose his authority on some men under him who objected. They took him behind a wall and shot him. A former Prime Minister, Don Manuel Portela Valladares, was rescued by the police from assassination. At midnight on Thursday a band of twelve armed men arrived at his house. While they were breaking down the doors someone telephoned to the police, who sent two plain-clothes men. These were powerless against the mob. Señor Valladares and his wife escaped to a neighbouring roof. He placed a ladder against the garden wall to mislead his pursuers, who frequently passed near, but did not find him. At last a dozen Shock Police arrived and drove away the invaders.

A traveller reports that at the magnificent convent on the Paseo de San Juan he saw the mummified bodies of priests and nuns taken from their graves and set upright against the church for exhibition.

The President of the Catalan Parliament has agreed to form a new Cabinet, more in accordance with the exigencies of the present situation.

ITALIAN AEROPLANES

At Algiers it is confirmed that five Italian aeroplanes flew over Algerian territory on their way to Spanish Morocco. Three made forced landings, two with the loss of all but one of their crew. The six occupants of the third are now prisoners in French hands. They declare that they were taking the plane across for a private firm. It contained four machine guns and bomb-dropping gear.

In France the matter is regarded as serious, raising in an acute form the very problem which M. Blum and his colleagues hoped by their attitude of neutrality to avoid. There will be no change in French policy provided this is the end and not the beginning of Italian interference. The Italian Government have already declared that they are no party to the transaction.

A PALESTINE JUDGMENT

The High Court in Jerusalem has declared to be *ultra vires* the section of the Emergency Regulations under which a collective

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fine is imposed on a town as punishment for mischief in its neighbourhood. The decision arose from an appeal made by certain citizens of Gaza against an order issued by British officials for a fine of £P1,000 for the recent wire-cutting and railway sabotage near Gaza. The Chief Justice set aside the order with costs of £P2. The Arabs are jubilant at this blow to the Government's prestige.

McMAHON SENT FOR TRIAL

McMahon was again brought up at Bow Street. In his defence he said that in 1933, as a result of certain information which he gave to Scotland Yard, he was imprisoned for 3½ months for criminal libel. He had sent several petitions to King George and King Edward for compensation for unjust imprisonment. These did not have any success. He was bound to carry a revolver for his own safety. He was a free-lance journalist, but did not earn enough to maintain himself. On 16 July he was strolling in Hyde Park when he heard music, and went to Constitution Hill. He saw all the people happy and contented and then remembered that he had barely the price of a meal. He thought, what was the good of living, and he sobbed. He went on to say. "The thought suddenly struck me that if only I could draw the King's attention to the wrongs which I imagined had been meted out to me, at least he would not allow one of his subjects to be so treated." So he threw his revolver. He could easily have shot the King, but that was not his intention. He is committed for trial at the next session of the Central Criminal Court.

THE OLYMPIC TORCH

At 11.45 a.m. the last Czechoslovak runner reached the German border and handed the Olympic torch to the first German runner. A crowd of 50,000 people cheered, and shouted in German and Czech, "We salute the youth of the world." When the torch reaches Berlin to-morrow it will have been carried nearly 1,900 miles, across six countries.

PONDICHERRY RIOTS

Some Europeans and mill officials had a narrow escape at Pondicherry during strike disturbances. With their wives and children they had taken refuge in a bungalow from strikers who were violent. The strikers began to batter down the door, and two panels had gone when armed French police forced the gates of the mill with a steam-roller and dispersed the besiegers.

Saturday 1 August

DEATH OF M. BLÉRIOT

M. Louis Blériot, a pioneer of French aviation, died in Paris at the age of sixty-four as the result of a heart-attack. In 1909 he was the first to fly across the English Channel, when his engine lasted just long enough for him to clear the cliffs at Dover and land in the North Foreland meadow.

AN EGYPTIAN TREATY

After but five days' discussion, agreement is reached between the British and Egyptian delegates on the Sudan. The draft was initialled by the heads of the delegations the same evening. No details as yet are known.

Sunday 2

A LOST AIR-LINER

All hope for the air-liner *Cloud of Iona*, which has been missing since Friday night, has been abandoned. She carried ten passengers. Late this evening three Jersey motor-yachts brought in to St. Aubin harbour portions of aeroplane wreckage, including wood, cushions, and aircraft fabric. All were identified as parts of the missing machine. The machine had a flying-range of four hours. She was to have been fitted with wireless apparatus next week; this had previously been considered unnecessary, as the machine was only in use for the short service between Guernsey and Jersey.

THE OLYMPIC GAMES

This afternoon the Eleventh Olympiad was opened in the Reichssportsfeld in Berlin, when 100,000 spectators gathered in the stone stadium. On the stroke of 4 p.m. bugles sounded. Crowds cheered, and hands were raised in the Nazi salute as a small procession, dwarfed by its surroundings, appeared, in the midst of which marched Herr Hitler, in brown uniform. After the singing of "Deutschland über Alles," fanfares of trumpets sounded and flags of all nations were unfurled. The Olympic Bell was rung. The athletes marched past. Baron Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the modern Olympiad, having made a speech, guns thundered and the air became full of flying pigeons. The trumpets again sounded and the new Olympic Hymn, composed by Richard Strauss, was played. Then came the last of the torch-bearers from Greece, who carried his torch down the eastern steps, along the track, and up the western steps, to light the Olympic fires in large braziers. The opening was completed by the singing of the "Hallelujah Chorus," the march-out of the teams, and the departure of Herr Hitler.

3 August

Monday 3

THE DEFENCE OF MADRID

North of Madrid, Government forces are said to have been reinforced by a strong detachment of workers from Valencia. Forty miles west of Madrid another Government column is hoping to establish contact with them in preparation for a fresh offensive. Toledo, now in the hands of the insurgents, is likely to fall at any moment, as the water-supply has been cut off. Both sides are silent about the insurgent stronghold of Saragossa, which is very strongly fortified and seems to be the key position of the military situation. The Government are moving up great masses of men for the attack from all directions, but they are handicapped by lack of munitions, organisation, and training, and rely chiefly on deserters from the insurgent rank-and-file. In Madrid people have faced the situation with great courage. Markets are open and cinemas and theatres in full swing.

A FRENCH PLEA FOR NEUTRALITY

A French Note to Great Britain makes a "pressing appeal for the rapid adoption and rigid observance of an agreed arrangement for non-intervention in Spain."

A COLD HOLIDAY

The weather generally over the holiday has been wretched. Nevertheless, traffic by railway and road is heavier than ever.

A JUDGE'S FRAUD

A bank manager at Charleroi, in Belgium, was ingeniously deceived. He received a telephone message from a "Judge Grégoire" of Brussels telling him that a search was being made for forged 1,000-franc notes, many of which were in circulation at Charleroi. The bank manager was instructed to bring to the judge for verification all the 1,000-franc notes recently received by his bank. He went to the law-courts, where the "judge" was waiting for him. The "judge" then asked for the 160 1,000-franc notes to be handed over for examination. The bank manager, thinking the matter somewhat strange, told the story to the *bâtonnier*—the head of the Bar—who suspected a fraud. They returned to the law-courts together as the "judge" was coming down the stairs. He saluted them with great respect, but the *bâtonnier* asked for his papers and the fraud was discovered. The "judge" actually was a penniless commercial traveller. He was therefore obliged to return to the law-court to hand back the 1,000-franc notes. He is now under arrest.

WALLINGTON HOUSE

Sir Charles Trevelyan has announced that he intends to bequeath his estate in Northumberland—Wallington House—to the National Trust, so that at his death it shall become private property secure from disruption and dispersion. The house is 250 years old and of great architectural interest, and contains a valuable collection of china and pictures and a library collected by Macaulay and Sir George Otto Trevelyan. In his statement Sir Charles said: "By pure chance I own Wallington. I regard myself solely as a trustee for the community, and I have been putting back into the estate, during the seven years I have been here, all, and more than all, I have ever drawn from it in rents. But I can have no guarantee that in the future there might not come owners of Wallington who might want to make money out of the land again—who might no longer want to keep Wallington House and grounds open to the wider public who now so much and so increasingly appreciate it.

"My other motive of action will be understood by many who have no sympathy with my Socialism. Great houses like this, and the great estates round them, are part of an order of society which is passing away. Taxation, both income-tax and death-duties, make their continuance practically impossible. I doubt if any successor to me inheriting Wallington could himself afford to live here, and quite certainly his successor could not do so without selling most of the estate. Wallington would go the way you have seen many country houses go in the last few years. None of you would want that. I believe also that all of you would wish the treasures of Wallington to be preserved here intact, and that the Trevelyans should stay here to care for the place which means so much to them.

"There are four things which I want to ensure:

"(1) That the control of the estate and the enjoyment of its surplus values should no longer be in private hands.

"(2) That Wallington, its grounds, and its valuable contents should be accessible for all time to the people, and should never pass into selfish or unsympathetic ownership.

"(3) That the Wallington estate should not be broken up.

"(4) That the connection of my family with Wallington should not be severed."

Sir Charles explained his intentions at a garden-party to people living on the estate.

4-5 August

Tuesday 4

GERMAN CHARGES AGAINST SOVIET RUSSIA

The German Press publishes to-day a lively report from Moscow about a steadily increasing "material and moral support in the Soviet Union for the Spanish Marxists." German commentators observe that it is time the world realised the inflexibility of Soviet world revolutionary aims.

BRITISH NOTE TO FRANCE

The British Government have replied to the French Note of 3 August, strongly supporting the general principle that an agreed arrangement for non-intervention in Spain is desirable. The French appeal was also sent to Italy, but as yet there is no reply.

Wednesday 5

SPAIN: FIRST UNCENSORED NEWS

The first full uncensored account of events in Spain has reached London and is published in *The Times*. The conflict is described as a struggle between two extremists in which the Liberal Republic must inevitably perish.

On Saturday, 18 July, the Government, abandoning all thought of temporising with the insurgents, turned to the workers and armed the people. By Sunday every street was patrolled, and passers-by searched rigorously but politely. Snipers fired from the roof-tops. Fascist desperadoes rushed about the city in armed cars firing automatics. The Marxist Militia fired back. On Sunday the first fires of burning convents and churches lit the sky. Near the Labour headquarters the narrow streets were jammed with sweating, swearing, singing humanity. By dawn on Monday many thousands of these volunteers attacked the Fascists lodged in La Montaña barracks. The Fascists had all the artillery, the Government being equipped with one heavy gun, two field-pieces collected from the repair shops, and 5,000 old rifles. The guns were drawn by beer-lorries. Nevertheless, the white flag was soon flying from La Montaña. The insurgent rank-and-file rebelled and drove out their remaining officers. Many Fascists were killed.

The Red Militia then returned to patrol the streets. By midnight half a hundred buildings were in flames. All Tuesday magnificent cars swung along the streets with men clinging to the running-boards brandishing revolvers or levelling rifles on the roof. An English couple who watched from a balcony were told to go in. They misunderstood, a volley rang out, and they fell, the woman with three bullets, the man with one.

By Wednesday the threat from General Mola's advance

guard drew the militia out of the city. There were sighs of relief at the departure of the protectors.

By Friday pressure on Madrid was lessened, but the city was threatened with scarcity of supplies, as the road to Valencia was the only communication left open.

On Saturday the capture of Albacete by the Reds opened up other railway communications and immediate anxiety was removed. The Red Militia now hold the fate of Spain in their hands, but there is dissension amongst the Unions of the Left. Some hold their Marxist ideals above everything else, and have occupied convents, churches, and the palaces of the nobility. "Committees of Workers" have taken over the big railway companies.

No Masses are said on Sundays. On 26 July a priest was saying Mass at the Escorial when a band of armed men seized him and dragged him away.

There have been many arrests for looting and arbitrary arrests. The jails are crammed. Batches of prisoners are released to make room for others. Many have disappeared, horrifyingly, for ever.

According to a document found on a dead officer, the insurgents have received instructions to destroy the morale of the Reds by terrorism in destroying cattle and crops.

Affairs are now in a stalemate position. Neutrals may sympathise with both sides. The Republicans are fighting for ideals of liberty long since secured in other lands, the Fascists for traditions venerated for centuries. The struggle recalls an inscription on a weather-beaten stone on the mountains which records how two brave Spaniards fought to death for a melon. Such is Spanish intractability.

AN AIR MINISTRY INQUIRY

Sir Christopher Bullock, Permanent Secretary to the Air Ministry, has been dismissed the service. This action by the Prime Minister follows upon the findings, published in a White Paper, of the Board of Inquiry appointed to investigate certain conversations between Sir Christopher and representatives of the Imperial Airways concerning the possibility of his future association with that company. While important negotiations were in process between the Air Ministry and Imperial Airways, Sir Christopher had repeatedly discussed with Sir Eric Geddes the possibility of his succeeding him as Chairman of Imperial Airways, saying that there was no further prospect of advancement for him in the civil service. Sir Eric said that he

5-6 August

had no idea of going, and found these conversations embarrassing. The Board conclude that Sir Christopher's conduct is completely at variance with the tenor and spirit of the code, which clearly precludes a civil servant from interlacing public negotiations entrusted to him with the advancement of personal or private interests.

THE DUKE OF YORK IN CAMP

The Duke of York arrived at Southwold to spend his annual two days with the 400 boys from public schools and factories who are in camp there. The Duke went with the boys for their afternoon swim, though a keen east wind was blowing from the sea. He seemed to enjoy the swim and was not the first out. In an impromptu race he won by half an inch. Later he joined heartily in the singing at the camp concert.

THE DUCE'S BLACK ARMY

It is proposed to raise the total of the Italian native troops in Ethiopia to more than 120,000 men. Recruiting is in full swing.

THE OLYMPIC GAMES

Jesse Owens, the American negro, achieved his third Olympic victory. He won the final of the 200 metres in 20·7 seconds, a second less than the world record. H. H. Whitlock won the first Olympic title for Great Britain in record time in the 50 kilometres walk.

Thursday 6

SPAIN: MORE UNCENSORED NEWS

Another uncensored dispatch has reached London. When allowance has been made for exaggeration, the truth of the Spanish horrors is still terrible. Spaniards are risking their lives without the slightest hesitation. In the Sierra de Guadarrama the insurgents have placed their forces with consummate skill. The workers wildly attacked them, but were mowed down. Spanish women of the working classes are burning with Republican enthusiasm. "Intellectual" women have disappeared into the background, but Dolores Ibarruri, called La Pasionaria, has come to the fore and is doing propaganda work for the Government. Women take their place in the front lines beside the men.

The great danger is that anarchism will win the day. The intellectuals who led the 1931 revolution are now mere tools. The militia have confiscated nearly all private cars, and ride about madly in search of imaginary Fascists. They seem to be

enjoying their first rides in good cars. The Spaniards do not read much, and the cinema is the strongest influence on them. They have now adopted a Wild West attitude, and keep their fingers on their guns all day long.

The Reds have taken Albacete with dreadful massacre. Monarchists and Fascists trying to escape disguised as peasants were killed with pitchforks. Tyranny now rules. Everybody must wear a red ribbon in his coat. The word *adios* is anathema because of the mention of God. The only salute allowed is "Salud, camaradas!"

Children are also included in the fighting. Little boys ride on cars brandishing revolvers and manipulating machine guns like their film-star heroes. A small boy held up an Englishman in the street and asked for his papers, inspiring respect by toying playfully with an ultra-modern repeater, which he pointed, in the manner of the films, at any civilian he chose to interrogate. The Englishman asked to look at his gun. The boy pleasantly handed it over. Before returning it the Englishman covertly pushed back the safety-catch.

Priests and nuns have been driven out of their convents. From the lintel of El Panteón de Hombres Ilustres in Madrid the head of a priest has been hanging. Terror-stricken nuns are fleeing the land.

ITALY AND SPAIN

Italy has replied to the French appeal for non-intervention in the Spanish war. She adheres in principle, but requires interpretation of the terms. Does it bind only the Government, or private individuals also?

In Spain the struggle north of Madrid seems to be swaying in favour of the insurgents. They still hold the Guadarrama slopes. In the Saragossa district the Government forces seem to have had better luck. They have beaten off a strong attack on Sástago, which supplies Saragossa with electricity. In the south, Government columns are attacking Cordoba and Granada. General Franco is staking everything on Spain itself, and is pouring in troops from Morocco. The insurgents seem little behind the Reds in cold-blooded slaughter: their prisoners are being shot in batches without trial.

A censored message from Madrid states that railway services are established with the Mediterranean coast, Talavera, and Badajoz. The front in the Guadarrama mountains is impenetrable. At Somosierra the insurgents hold the first slopes and the pass, and spend most of their time in the railway tunnel.

6-7 August

At the Leon pass, there is also a long tunnel where one end is in the hands of the Government forces and the other in the hands of the insurgents. The passage between is blocked. Other passes are held by guards with machine guns, who in their lonely and tranquil fastnesses shoot at the eagles and watch life in the valleys through binoculars.

Though disciplined, there is a certain *camaraderie* among the Government forces. General Riquelme dresses in blue overalls like the militia. The women at the front call him "Grandpa" and kiss him in the street.

Toledo is now almost wholly occupied by Government forces. The insurgents still hold the Alcázar, but the militia frequently have friendly conversation with the sentries. Shelling has now ceased.

A YORKSHIRE PIT DISASTER

It is feared that fifty-seven men have lost their lives in a pit belonging to the Wharnccliffe Woodmoor Colliery Company near Barnsley, where an explosion occurred at about 3.30 this morning. So far about thirty bodies have been brought up, most of them unrecognisable. There is no hope whatever for any of the men still entombed. Some of the men had been killed by the explosion, some by suffocation. One man was recovered alive in an engine shed. He was three-quarters of a mile from the actual explosion. This is the worst colliery explosion in this country since the Gresford disaster in North Wales in September 1934.

PALESTINE

There is some improvement in the situation in Palestine since the Emir of Transjordan invited twenty-six Arab notables to meet him at Amman. The Emir is said to have pointed out that it was futile to attempt to humble the British authorities, and to have expressed his confidence that if violence ceased there would be a temporary suspension of Jewish immigration after the arrival of the Royal Commission, or even before it.

THE OLYMPIC GAMES

J. E. Lovelock of New Zealand gained a great victory for the British Empire in the final of the 1,500 metres, which he won by five yards in 3 minutes 47.8 seconds, beating the world record by a second.

Friday 7

THE YORKSHIRE PIT DISASTER

Fifty-two bodies so far have been found; but the rescuers are unable to reach the remainder. It is believed that they were

buried under hundreds of tons of debris. Three men had fought their way 400 yards to within 50 yards of the air intake and then fell, overcome by the fumes.

THE SUPPLY OF ARMS TO SPAIN

The French Government have submitted detailed proposals for non-intervention in Spain to interested Governments. The principal provision is a ban on the export of war materials, as well as aircraft of any kind. The French Government have in the past forty-eight hours modified their hitherto rigid attitude by authorising the supply of five Dewoitine aeroplanes ordered by the Spanish Government some weeks before the outbreak of civil war.

THE MURDER OF MAX KASSEL

After an interval of six months, the inquest on the body of Max Kassel, alias Emil Allard (whose body was found under a hedge near St. Albans last January), was resumed at St. Albans. Roger Vernon and Suzanne Bertrand, known also as Mrs. Naylor, are awaiting trial in France, charged with his death. At the inquest, Mlle Aubin, who was employed at the flat occupied by Mrs. Naylor, described the killing of Max Kassel. One evening he was shown into the sitting-room, where Lacroix, otherwise Roger Vernon, was present. The two men quarrelled, and she heard two shots in quick succession. She went upstairs with Mrs. Naylor. Kassel cried out that he had been shot, and tried to get into the street, but Lacroix pushed him into the bathroom, where after a time he died. At Lacroix's request she telephoned to a garage. About 4 o'clock in the morning someone was let into the flat, and she heard a noise as though something heavy had been put outside the bathroom. Pierre Alexandre also gave evidence and said that he went to Lacroix after receiving the telephone call. Lacroix said that he was in trouble. Red Max had insulted his girl and hit him, so he killed him. He and Lacroix carried the body of Allard downstairs and into the car. They drove out somewhere near St. Albans and put the body on the other side of the hedge. After a short consultation the jury returned a verdict that Allard was wilfully murdered by Lacroix, and Suzanne Naylor was an accessory after the fact. The coroner formally bound over the witnesses to appear in the event of their being required at the trial.

COLD WEATHER

This was one of the coldest days in early August for many years. From the Humber to Surrey and Kent there

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were many places with a maximum temperature below 60 degrees.

Saturday 8

THE KING'S HOLIDAY

The King left Windsor for Shibenik, the port on the Dalmatian coast where he will join the yacht *Nahlin* for his holiday. He is travelling incognito as the Duke of Lancaster. Some of his personal friends are in the party, on whom comment is more reticent in Fleet Street than in Piccadilly.

Sunday 9

THE DEFENCE OF MADRID

Spain is now facing the fourth week of savage civil war. The insurgents are massing their men from Morocco and a new phase may begin at any moment. General Franco has set up his headquarters at Seville, and is preparing for an offensive on Malaga. Two small Balearic Islands have been captured by the Government. The defeat of a surprise attack of insurgents north of Madrid is reported. Six companies of infantry were shot to pieces by the garrison, and 200 insurgents killed, whilst the Government lost four killed and eleven wounded.

ARMS FOR SPAIN

Neither Germany nor Italy has replied to the French proposals for non-intervention in Spain. The German Chargé d'Affaires has informed the British Government that no war materials have been sent from Germany to the Spanish insurgents, and none will be. The German reply will depend on the Soviet attitude. It is believed in Paris that this will be favourable.

Monday 10

THE KING'S HOLIDAY

The King arrived at Shibenik at 8.45 this morning. He was received by the commander of the naval escort of his yacht and dignitaries of Yugoslavia. A salute of 101 guns was fired by the Yugoslav Navy. The *Nahlin* put out to sea at 11.15 a.m.

SPAIN

In the last twenty-four hours the centre of activity has shifted to Badajoz, where the insurgents are attempting to capture the town. Its early fall is expected. An insurgent mechanised column, including 200 lorries, made swift progress to within twenty miles, but were held up as all the bridges were destroyed. The fall of the town would be another threat to Madrid on the south-west.

THE "HERZOGIN CECILIE"

All hope of salving the Finnish grain ship, *Herzogin Cecilie*, has been abandoned.

TREpanning IN ANCIENT PALESTINE

The Wellcome Archæological Research Expedition have discovered three human skulls at Tel Duweir (Lachish), in Palestine, each revealing a primitive method of trepanning, hitherto only found in Peru, the ancient land of the Incas. The Inca method, with stone tools, was not satisfactory, as no patient survived for more than a fortnight. In one of the Palestine skulls, however, the hole has smooth, rounded edges, indicating that the patient lived for some time after the operation. The skulls were found in an ossuary possibly connected with the havoc wrought at Lachish by King Sennacherib of Assyria in 701 B.C.

Tuesday 11

SPAIN

Fighting broke out again to-day in the province of Guipuzcoa, near Irun, where the insurgents, directed by General Mola himself, are thought to be intent on capturing strategic positions on the Irun-San Sebastian road.

From Madrid comes news that the Government forces have captured the village of Leon, in the Guadarrama section. The Government are anxious to break up the insurgents here before contact is made with General Franco. A Junker aeroplane carrying three Germans and a Spaniard made a forced landing near Badajos.

THE NEW GERMAN AMBASSADOR

Herr Joachim von Ribbentrop, hitherto Ambassador-at-Large, has been appointed by Herr Hitler to be German Ambassador at the Court of St. James's.

TROUBLE AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES

Dr. Goebbels has been busy mediating in a dispute which arose in a football match between the Peruvians and the Austrians. The Peruvians won, but the game was rough, and at the end Peruvian spectators rushed on to the field, and one of them kicked an Austrian player. The Austrians protested, and it was decided that the match was to be replayed and no spectators should be allowed. As the Peruvians refused to take the field, the Executive Committee granted the Austrians a walk-over. The Peruvians then announced their withdrawal from the Olympic Games. Negotiations are continuing.

12-13 August

Wednesday 12

THE EGYPTIAN TREATY

The remaining clauses of the treaty with Egypt were initialled at a plenary session of the two delegations at Alexandria. At the close of the meeting Mustapha Nahas Pasha accepted the invitation of the British Government to come to London with the delegation for the signing of the treaty. In his speech he said that "Egypt unanimously rejoices at the result of the negotiations, which not only opens between the two countries an era of sincere good friendship, but also offers to a world undermined by a grave crisis a salutary example."

These negotiations with Egypt have been continuing for many years, for public opinion in Egypt has always resented the British Protectorate assumed during the Great War, but neither side would give way on certain points. The Italian attack on Ethiopia altered the situation and made a final agreement desirable. Sir Miles Lampson was then invited to open negotiations, which were delayed through the death of King Fuad and the General Election in Egypt, but have now at last been brought to a friendly conclusion.

THE CAPTURE OF BADAJOS

The long-expected offensive under General Franco from the south has now begun, its first fruits being the capture of Badajos and the contact with General Mola's forces in the north. The insurgents are still, however, far from being masters of the situation. The capture was preceded by one of the bloodiest engagements yet fought. Nearly 1,000 of the Government militia were killed.

Thursday 13

BREAKING A BRIDGE

Officials of the Ministry of Transport and the Department of Industrial and Scientific Research were present at the destruction of a 140-year-old bridge over a disused canal near Derby. This is the first of a series of experiments initiated by Mr. Hore-Belisha, to test the strength of various types of bridges. The old bridge only gave way under eighty tons pressure. When cracks appeared, they were marked with red paint, and the stones were numbered. All defections were duly noted by observers with telescopes, wearing crash helmets which, however, were not necessary, as there was no flying masonry. The experiment was neither spectacular nor exciting.

THE STORKS

The Honorary Secretary of the Haslemere Museum notes that on 12 August eighteen of the nineteen storks reared on

artificial nests migrated southward; the nineteenth had a bad leg and did not consider himself fit enough to attempt the journey. The B.B.C. have broadcast a request for information of the storks' whereabouts.

Friday 14

FRANCE

The Ordinary Session of the Senate and the Chamber came to an end at 7 a.m. to-day. M. Blum read out its record, which includes collective contracts, paid holidays, the Wheat Office, and the raising of the school age.

PALESTINE

Seaforth Highlanders south of Nablus have been sniped at almost nightly, and the hills are infested with armed bands. The people of Nablus have been fined £5,000 for firing on troops and throwing bombs. A party of ten men of the York and Lancaster Regiment were surprised by Arabs. They were patrolling the railway near Beit Alpha, and paused to bathe in an irrigation pool, leaving two men, armed with a Lewis gun, to guard their motor-car. Fifty Arabs crept up and opened fire, wounding both soldiers. Lance-Corporal Wood and a private left the water and rushed to the gun. Wood was killed, and the Arabs made off with the gun. Meantime the rest of the men seized their rifles and fired at the escaping Arabs, killing one.

A COUP IN GREECE

General Metaxas has achieved a noiseless *coup d'état* in Greece. There was no commotion beyond a few patrols and machine guns placed at tactical points. At 11 p.m. on 4 August all telephonic and telegraphic communication was cut off, and loudspeakers announced that General Metaxas had suppressed the Chamber, suspended several clauses of the Constitution regarding the liberty of the subject, and declared martial law. Greece once more takes leave of Parliamentary Government, and an absolute régime comes into being, though such distasteful terms as "dictatorship" and "directorship" are avoided.

SAVAGERY AT BADAJOS

The insurgents captured Badajoz after savage fighting. Seven hundred Government supporters were killed in the battle, and in all about 1,200 more were shot when found in possession of arms in the town. The Trinidad Gate was taken by a band of the Foreign Legion after a bloody hand-to-hand fight with bayonet and dagger. Throughout the night prisoners were placed against the wall in the public street and shot, until

14-16 August

the pavements ran with blood, mixed with the caps, papers, and small belongings of the massacred men. On Saturday mass executions continued in Toros Square. Many houses are in flames, and the smoke hangs like a pall over the city; streets are littered with dead bodies, broken glass, shattered tiles, the stench and mess of battle. The capture of Badajos establishes contact between the insurgents' forces of the north and south. Generals Franco and Mola have communicated with each other by telephone.

Meanwhile Government troops are landing at Palma for an attack on Majorca.

Saturday 15

BRITISH SUPPORT OF NEUTRALITY

Full agreement has been reached between the British and French Governments on the French proposals for prohibiting the export of arms to Spain. The agreement is to come into force as soon as assent is received from the German, Italian, Portuguese, and Russian Governments. The British Government have issued a warning to the public not to assist either side in Spain. Those who do so must expect no assistance whatever if they get into difficulties.

THE DEATH OF SIR HENRY LYTTON

Sir Henry Lytton, the last of the old "Savoyards" to remain in active service, died at the age of sixty-nine. He married secretly at the age of seventeen, while still at school, and soon afterwards his wife obtained an engagement for them both in the chorus of the D'Oyley Carte Opera Company. He had been playing in Gilbert and Sullivan operas ever since.

ATHLETICS AT THE WHITE CITY

The sixth athletic contest between the British Empire and the United States of America was held at the White City before 90,000 spectators. The United States team won by eleven events to three. So many Olympic champions and holders of world records have not previously been seen at a meeting in this country, and three records were beaten during the afternoon. Jesse Owens, the negro who won three Olympic victories, appeared in one event.

Sunday 16

THE KING'S HOLIDAY

The *Nahlin* reached the Bay of Lumbarda, in the Island of Korcula, this morning. In the afternoon the King's Private Secretary was received by the Mayor, who handed to him for

the King a short history of the British occupation. The Yugoslav authorities, as far as is possible, are protecting His Majesty from Press photographers and enthusiastic sightseers.

VIOLENCE IN PALESTINE

The extremists are out of hand and trying to settle the issue in their own favour, while the Arab leaders parley. At Tiberias, synagogues were stoned and a boy was killed by a bomb exploding on the water-front. A bomb was thrown at a level crossing near Tel Aviv, killing a boy and wounding twelve persons. Men sent by the Palestine Electric Corporation to do some repairs near Jaffa at midnight were ambushed, and one was killed. Threatening letters are sent to British officials.

RED CROSS MEN'S ADVENTURES

The Swedish Red Cross unit in Ethiopia, last heard of four months ago on the southern front of the Ethiopian forces, has reached Nairobi, after three months' journey to the Kenya border. They travelled through country infested with soldiers turned brigands, their only escort being Ethiopian regulars, who refused to lead them anywhere near Italian posts or troops. They were cut off from all supplies, and lived like natives, sleeping on the ground and eating native food. Dr. Hylander, the leader of the unit, said that many tribes would join the Italians for the sake of pay. Resistance was, however, being strongly continued, and there were enough soldiers, if organised, to make a bitter fight.

THE END OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES

The Eleventh Olympiad came to an end at Berlin, and the closing ceremony was held with full pomp in the great stadium. Herr Hitler and other distinguished visitors, including King Boris of Bulgaria, were present. Most of the athletes have already gone back, but the enthusiasm remains. At 9 o'clock the stadium was flood-lit before the final ceremony began. First Count Baillet-Latour offered to the *Führer* and the German people the gratitude of the International Olympic Committee. He ended by saying, "May the Olympic torch be carried on throughout the ages with ever greater eagerness, courage, and honour for the good of humanity." Then the official Olympic flag was lowered and carried away by eight men in white, and the flag from Los Angeles was delivered into the custody of the Mayor of Berlin. The Olympic flame was extinguished, a minute's silence was observed, then came

16-17 August

a ghostly call to Tokyo from a voice in the darkness. In the final results Germany leads with 33 gold medals, the United States being second with 24. Great Britain and Austria have 4 each.

Monday 17

SPAIN

During the past twenty-four hours activities have been mainly confined to the process of "cleaning up" in Badajos, including mass executions which bring the total of victims up to 1,500.

Government forces have captured Gijon and are believed to be closing in on Cordoba and Granada. The garrison of the enclave of Ifni, in Morocco, have gone over to the insurgents and have seized 1,000,000 pesetas sent by the Government for recruiting purposes.

Government troops landed in Majorca on Sunday morning at about 9 o'clock. A heavy bombardment had first destroyed railways and roads and prevented the advance of the insurgents, who were also dispersed by the bombs of the covering aeroplanes. The invaders are now marching on Palma.

In Madrid, General Fanjul has been shot in the courtyard of the model prison. A few minutes before his death he was married to an unknown lady.

The insurgents have opened an offensive against San Sebastian, which was bombarded by a battleship and other warships. The Government forces hold 700 hostages of noble families in San Sebastian, whom they have threatened to shoot if San Sebastian is bombarded.

NEUTRALITY IN SPAIN

The German Foreign Office have sent a letter to the French Ambassador in Berlin expressing agreement with the non-intervention proposals, subject to certain reservations. The text will be published to-morrow.

FINE WEATHER

This is the third consecutive fine, sunny, and warm day in London, the south-east, and the south coast.

THE KING'S HOLIDAY

The King landed at Dubrovnik and was received with great ceremonial by the municipal authorities. After dinner the King and some of his guests went ashore to fish by the light of Chinese lanterns.

18 August

Tuesday 18

SPAIN

Movements have slackened, and the combatants are consolidating their position. San Sebastian has again been bombarded by insurgent warships. The Basque levies claim successes against the insurgents near Irun. The situation is confused because there is no regular front. Small bodies of troops are operating in wide areas. Cruelties increase on both sides, each justifying the latest massacre as a reprisal for the misdeeds of the enemy. A thousand people are said to have been executed in Madrid in two nights. In Andalusia prisoners were deliberately burned alive in a cellar, and the feet of the parish priest of Puente Gentil were chopped off with an axe in the public street. The insurgents have let loose native Moroccan troops on the white population of Spain, and are themselves frightened by their cruelties.

GERMANY AND NEUTRALITY

The contents of the German Note are made public. The German Government is in agreement with the French proposals on condition:

(1) That the Spanish Government release the German aeroplane still held at Madrid.

(2) That all States which possess industries for the manufacture of war materials and aircraft in material quantities bind themselves similarly, and that in particular supplies from private firms or persons be brought within the scope of the embargo.

CORONATION ROUTES

The route for the Coronation of King Edward VIII has been extended to six miles. This should enable more people to see the procession, and also lead to a revision of ideas about the price of seats. Since the Coronation of King George V, public transport has so vastly improved that multitudes unknown in the past can soon gather in London. The crowds at King George's funeral took the authorities by surprise.

PALESTINE

Yesterday two Jewish nurses attached to the Government hospital at Jaffa, alighting from a bus, were shot in the back and killed by unknown assailants. The Arab National Committee of Jaffa has condemned the crime. Such an act, it says, could only have been committed by persons devoid of human sympathy.

18-19 August

AN AUSTRALIAN DESERT EXPLORED

Mr. E. A. Colson, accompanied by a black boy with five camels carrying instruments, food, and enough water for three weeks, has crossed the Simpson Desert in Central Australia. He is the first white man to have made the journey. Mr. Colson's conclusion is that the time will come when water by means of wells or bores will be available in the Simpson Desert country, and that herds and flocks will convert the growth of herbage into an asset. At present, however, settlement is impracticable.

Wednesday 19

SPAIN

On the frontier it is reported that the Government supporters at San Sebastian have shot eight hostages as a reprisal for the shelling of the town. There has been heavy fighting near Irun, where the Government troops are holding out desperately. Typhoid fever has broken out in Spanish territory.

PALESTINE

Casualties in Palestine from 19 April to 15 August are: 211 killed, 1,020 wounded. These include two British police killed and six Army and R.A.F. men. The record of Arab casualties is probably quite inaccurate, as it is believed that many of those killed in the hills were carried off secretly and buried by their relatives.

THE SOVIET TRIAL

The trial has opened in Moscow of Zinovieff, Kameneff, and fourteen others, charged with being the leaders of "underground" terrorist revolutionary groups. They confess to holding meetings in Zinovieff's flat, concealing their activities under a hypocritical mask of loyalty in accordance with the advice of Trotsky, whom they intended to recall when they had murdered Stalin. As usual, the indictment consists of alleged confessions of questionable value.

THE CORONATION PROGRAMME

The King has granted permission for the official souvenir programme of the Coronation to be prepared by King George's Jubilee Trust. It will consist of thirty-two pages, and, besides the Coronation Service and an Introduction by the Archbishop of Canterbury, will give a photograph of King Edward, his message to the Empire, Coronation verses by the Poet Laureate, and a life of the King by Mr. Hector Bolitho.

Thursday 20

GERMANY AND SPAIN

The German Government have protested sharply in Madrid against the stopping of the German liner *Kamerun* by a Spanish cruiser, and the German commander in Spanish waters has warned the Spanish commander that any other unjustifiable acts of force will be met with force. The German Press vituperatively denounce the Spanish Government forces as "Red pirates" and "Red hordes." Prospects for agreement for non-intervention in Spain are not improved, though in Rome the impression has been given that divergences between Paris and Rome are gradually being narrowed down.

THE SOVIET TRIAL

The trial of those charged with plotting to overthrow the Stalin régime was resumed, each prisoner exposing the alleged activities, not of himself, but of the other prisoners. The evidence is a fantastic story of meetings in houses and railway carriages. The plotters agreed to exterminate the murderers whom they employed; Bakayeff was to be the head of the new Ogpu; Zinovieff the head of the new party; Kamenef head of the Government. All the prisoners answered broken-spiritedly, "Yes, you're right," to the accusations. Bakayeff had planned the murder of Kiroff with the assassin Nikolayeff. Mratchkovsky had received a letter from Trotsky, written in chemicals, urging the murder of Stalin. Zinovieff said that the exiled Trotsky issued instructions to his agents that Stalin must be physically destroyed. Trotsky, who is now in Oslo, declares that the whole accusation is a gross lie.

Friday 21

THE SPANISH CONFLICT

A correspondent writes from Spain that the appalling cruelty in the Spanish civil war has betrayed the gulf between the Spanish mentality and that of most of the rest of Europe. A characteristic of this people, however, which has an even greater influence on the progress of events is their individualism. War has not been able to reconcile different wings of the same camps. Both Government and anti-Government cling to extreme collectivist ideas which are really foreign to them. At the moment the fronts are fairly solid, but the Spanish inability to submit to the necessary discipline and the universal lack of organisation must be reckoned with. General Queipo de Llano said that when he took charge of the Second Division he had to force officers of the garrison at revolver point to get in touch

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with the men. He marched 180 men through Seville, and met 600 Asaltos of the Left Wing Government police. They had done nothing to stop Communist rioting. The general was well equipped with two tanks and several machine guns. So the Asaltos joined them.

THE ATTACK ON CORDOBA

A big battle is going on outside Cordoba, which is being attacked by two columns, one from the east along the River Guadalquivir, while the other advances from the passes of the Sierra de Cordoba north of the town.

ITALY AND SPAIN

Count Ciano handed to the Count de Chambrun, the French Ambassador in Rome, a Note that the Italian Government pledge themselves, in conformity with the clauses proposed by the French Government, to prohibit the direct or indirect export of arms and aircraft to Spain; to apply this prohibition to all contracts which are in course of execution; to keep themselves in contact with other States interested for the reciprocal communication of all the measures taken to give effect to this declaration. The Government, however, maintain their observations about indirect non-intervention, which they interpret as meaning there should be no public subscriptions for either side in Spain and no enrolment of volunteers.

THE SOVIET TRIAL

Further members of the terrorist group have been arrested, whilst the trial of the original sixteen continues. Kameneff was cross-examined, and gave evidence against several others of his fellow-workers. When trying to explain away the statement that they planned to kill those who committed the murders for them, Reingold, one of the prisoners, shouted savagely that he was lying. Smirnoff for three hours misinterpreted questions or did not reply. There was a duel of words between him and his former wife, Safonova. Although all witnesses had testified to his leading part in the terrorist organisation, he boldly protested his innocence. Safonova shouted "Liar!" "Liar yourself!" retorted Smirnoff. Mratchkovsky thereupon shouted, "Smirnoff is a liar!"

GERMANY AND SPAIN

The German Government have protested in Moscow and Madrid against the "unbridled agitation" against Germans in Spain broadcast from Russian stations and repeated in broadcasts from Madrid.

21-23 August

MURDERS IN THE HOLY LAND

During a heavy attack on the southern suburbs of Jerusalem, Dr. Levi Billig, formerly of Cambridge and now lecturer in Arabic Literature at the Hebrew University, was shot dead while reading in his study. A rifle was apparently thrust through the shutters and fired point blank. An omnibus taking Jewish workmen from an orange-grove near Kafr Saba was fired on. The driver was killed outright, a policeman died on the way to hospital, and three Jews and a Jewess were seriously wounded.

Saturday 22

THE MOSCOW TRIAL

All sixteen defendants charged with conspiracy against the State have been sentenced to death by shooting. Mikhail Tomskey, the head of the State Publishing Office, committed suicide when the police came to arrest him. He had been implicated with other high officials by the confessions of the conspirators. Vyshinsky, prosecuting counsel, when demanding the execution of all sixteen, said this must be the fate of all who are ready to knife the Soviet Government in the back. Wild applause greeted his demand. "Shoot all the sixteen mad dogs!" "Mad Fascist police dogs!" he shouted, "despicable rotten dregs of humanity! Scum of the underworld!"

Sunday 23

FIERCE FIGHTING IN SPAIN

There was heavy fighting at Gijon, where the Government supporters are now in control. They stormed the barracks where the insurgents were lodged. The main attack was made by miners armed with sticks of dynamite, who rushed towards the barracks. Many were killed in the murderous fire, but the survivors lit their fuses and hurled the dynamite over the walls. Soon the barracks were in flames, but the insurgents fought on till the roof collapsed. It is believed that only 150 out of 500 escaped alive. The officers who were not killed committed suicide.

Government forces have also entered Cordoba. The insurgents have moved their headquarters from Burgos to Valladolid in preparation for a bigger operation in the direction of Madrid.

The Government have deprived Professor Miguel de Unamuno of his life-rectorship of the University of Salamanca, and of his other appointments in the Ministry of Education.

NAZIS AND THE CHURCH

Pastors of the Confessional Movement at this morning's services read out a manifesto dealing with the difficulties of the

23-24 August

Evangelical Church in National-Socialist Germany. It states that the German people must decide whether the Christian faith shall continue to have rights of domicile in Germany. The gospel of Jesus Christ is being attacked by leading men of the State, who broadcast by radio; in training-camps the Rosenberg myth, which glorifies man and takes from the glory of God, is being taught; preaching and pastoral work are not allowed in the camps of the labour services. The continual spying on church activities, and above all the incessant interference by the State officers in the inner life, must cease. When the manifesto was read in one Berlin church, many women were in tears, and the fervour with which the congregation sang the closing hymn reveals the depth of emotion aroused by this religious conflict.

THE EGYPTIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES

The Egyptian Prime Minister, Mustapha Pasha Nahas, and his colleagues arrived at Victoria this evening, where he was welcomed by Mr. Eden. Many Egyptians, some wearing the fez, some in European hats, thronged the platform, and a body of students was much in evidence, shouting "Long live Nahas Pasha!"; "Long live the Wafd!"

TELEVISION

Members of the Press were conducted over the new B.B.C. Television Station at Alexandra Palace, broadcasts from which will be seen and heard at the Radio Exhibition next week.

THE "QUEEN MARY'S" RECORD

For the first time since 1910 a British ship has established a record for the westward passage of the Atlantic. When the *Queen Mary* arrived at New York, she had crossed in 4 days 7 hours 12 minutes. Among the passengers was Jesse Owens, the negro Olympic runner; whereat the New York Press announces, "Fastest human arrives on fastest ship as *Queen Mary* hangs up record."

Monday 24

THE STORKS

Three of the migrating storks have been seen at Land's End. Yesterday eight arrived in South Devon, where they alighted on on the roof of a farm.

GERMAN ARMY SERVICE

A decree issued in Berlin doubles the period of military service in Germany from one to two years; thereby German military

strength will be increased by one-third. The National-Socialist commentary declares that a group of agitators is attempting to plunge the world into the chaos of Communism. National-Socialist Germany will take the necessary measures to guarantee the freedom and independence of the nation under all circumstances.

The German Government have informed the French Government that they will bring the embargo on the export of arms to Spain into immediate operation.

Tuesday 25

FRANCE AND THE GERMAN ARMY SERVICE

The French Government regard the German decision to double the existing period of military service as one of the utmost gravity. They see it as yet one more sign that *Mein Kampf* and not the famous "Peace Plan" forms the mainspring of German foreign policy.

FRANCE AND NON-INTERVENTION

The French Government are now trying to arrange an international meeting at which a concrete agreement can be drawn up for non-intervention in Spain. They have in mind a Conference of Ambassadors or plenipotentiaries. The Soviet Government has agreed to the prohibition of the export of arms to Spain.

THE KING IN ATHENS

The yacht *Nahlin* anchored in Phaleron Bay. The King landed and drove to Athens with the British Minister. He visited the Acropolis, where he spent an hour.

MOSCOW TRIAL

All the sixteen accused who were sentenced to death for Trotskyist activities have been shot. Further arrests are being made in all parts of the Union.

Wednesday 26

ALLIANCE WITH EGYPT

The Anglo-Egyptian Treaty of Alliance was signed in the Locarno Room of the Foreign Office. It was witnessed by members of the British, American, Continental, and Egyptian Press, Foreign Office officials, and the wives of delegates. Among the British delegates was Sir Miles Lampson, towering, benevolent, obviously in the happy mood of the proud parent. Mrs. Eden and Lady Lampson sat with Madame Nahas Pasha. At 10.50 the British Ministers and Egyptian delegates entered, headed by Nahas Pasha, Mr. Eden, and Mr. Ramsay MacDonald. Mr. Eden took the red-brocaded chair at the head of

26 August

the table. On his right sat Nahas Pasha, and on his left the British representatives who were to sign the treaty. Three of the Egyptian delegates present had been exiles in the troubles after the war.

Mr. Eden, in his opening speech, said that this happy conclusion to the problems of Anglo-Egyptian relations had been reached through the conviction, strengthened by recent events, that it would be of great and general advantage that we should find means of collaborating more closely for the maintenance of good relations and for the protecting of our common interests.

Nahas Pasha, after the speech, shook Mr. Eden warmly by the hand, and replied in French. He said that they were offering to the world an example of how much balance, reason, and hope can be secured by a sincere understanding achieved in a spirit of peace and for peaceful ends. By putting her name to this historic treaty, Egypt, cradle of a glorious past civilisation, puts her hand into the hand of the great and free England, thus opening a new era in the relations of East and West.

The treaty, in duplicate, with rows of red seals and blue ribbon relieving the cream of the vellum, was laid before each delegate. Nahas Pasha was presented with a gold pen from the Young Men's Wafdist Association, inscribed "Pen of the Treaty of 1936." Many other delegates also signed with this, but some preferred their own old and tried vulcanite fountain-pens. The signing was followed by handshakes and congratulations, and the room then emptied.

A MANIFESTO BY BRITISH INTELLECTUALS

A message of sympathy to the Spanish nation, "fighting for its liberties," signed by twenty-nine English intellectuals and writers, ranging from H. G. Wells to Virginia Woolf, has been received at Madrid. It generously supports the Spanish Government and the people in the struggle between democracy and military despotism. It is observed that, owing to the lack of accurate news, it would be opportune for some at least of the signatories of this generous manifesto to come to Madrid. There are many remarkable developments to be studied on the spot. The journey to Madrid can be done comfortably in twenty-four hours.

THE STORKS

At least four storks have been seen in the district of Land's End. They landed on a roof-top and were lured to the ground

by a feed of pilchards. Afterwards they settled on the roof for the night. Two more have been seen in Eton, where they had been feeding on corn.

Thursday 27

THE ANGLO-EGYPTIAN TREATY

The text of the treaty is now published. It is agreed that military occupation by British forces will terminate. The Alliance will continue for twenty years. Defence of the Suez Canal is reserved for British forces until Egypt is strong enough to take it over. Egypt will apply for membership of the League of Nations. If either party is engaged in war, the other party will come to its aid. In the Sudan, administration remains the same. There will be no discrimination between British subjects and Egyptian nationals in matters of commerce and immigration. Egypt will approach all Capitulatory Powers with a view to removing all restrictions on the administration of Egyptian legislation to foreigners.

A NEW RAILWAY RECORD

A new high-speed record for British railways was set up by the L.N.E.R. train, *Silver Jubilee*, which at one point on the run from Newcastle to London touched a speed of 113 miles an hour.

EXCAVATIONS AT MAIDEN CASTLE

Excavations at Maiden Castle, the great prehistoric earth-work on the outskirts of Dorchester, which have been going on this summer have revealed much. Apparently Maiden Castle remained in use as a city for twenty or thirty years after the Roman invasion of Britain. Then, when it was finally abandoned and the population had migrated into the new Roman Dorchester, the walls and gateway were thrown down as a symbol that the city was derelict.

Friday 28

SPAIN

The battle for Irun—costly and so far unprofitable to the insurgents—remains the principal field of activity. General Queipo de Llano, the insurgent leader in Seville, declares that preparations for the capture of Madrid are in hand. He has obligingly sent an aeroplane to drop leaflets in Madrid announcing the fact.

ADDIS ABABA ATTACKED

Marauding bands have again attempted to enter Addis Ababa. About 1,200 raiders were seen and routed by Eritrean and Italian patrols. About 200 were killed.

28-30 August

DR. SCHACHT IN PARIS

Dr. Schacht, President of the Reichsbank and German Minister of Economics, has been in Paris for the last three days. He had assured the French that the increase in the period in German military service was in no way directed against France. It was desired for technical reasons, and had been hastened by military preparations in Russia. He strongly objected to the persistent propaganda in Moscow, which he regarded as a main cause of unrest. He denied that he had any idea of obtaining direct credits for Germany at this stage, but hoped that Franco-German trade would soon be established on a new and expanding basis. Dr. Schacht departed in an atmosphere of non-committal civility, but the French suspicions of German motives are not decreasing.

CRICKET

Derbyshire have won the County Cricket Championship. They last achieved this in 1874, when the decision rested upon the "smallest number of lost matches." They then came under the category of "first class."

Saturday 29

GLIDING CONTESTS

The British gliding competitions opened on the fine gliding site at Bradwell Edge, near Hope, Derbyshire. Conditions were good, and towards evening hot currents of air from below enabled gliders to make long flights.

Sunday 30

SPAIN

After several days of desperate fighting at Irun, both sides, exhausted with their efforts, are quietly consolidating their position. The Government are reported to be short of ammunition.

For the first time in the war, insurgents dropped bombs on Madrid on Friday night and Saturday. Bombs fell on the War Office, the Bank of Spain, and the Central Post Office. Brilliant parachute flares lit up the city. People rushed panic-stricken to underground cellars. Seventeen were wounded. The raid is the beginning of the insurgent offensive.

Meanwhile the Tribunal continues to sit in the Fine Arts Club and Madrid indulges in butchery. By no means all arrested persons ever reach the Tribunal. Pedestrians see stark corpses in the Moncloa, and some are flung out of passing cars in the street in broad daylight. The walls near the British cemetery and in many other places are spattered with blood. Officials in the outskirts of the city complain that the sick

cannot sleep for the cries of the victims done to death nightly. A city councillor was arrested in his home: next morning his tie and cuff-links were returned to the hall-porter. His relatives, taking the hint, visited the morgue and identified the body, half-naked and bootless, with three bullet-wounds in the chest. Scavengers had found it in the street where it was thrown for all to see, labelled: "R. de Madariaga, executed at 4.30 a.m." An officer who had helped to put down the revolt in Asturias in 1934 was arrested in the Military Hospital. Realising the issue, he calmly observed that the hospital was not the place for such a scene. He was taken into a field and there shot. His head was then hacked off, to be sent to Asturias as a proof to the miners that "the tyrant was dead."

At midnight a furtive procession of Republicans and Socialists made their way to the British Embassy and begged the British Ambassador to intervene for the sake of humanity. The *Chargé d'Affaires* immediately ordered his car and proceeded to the battle headquarters. The result of the interview is not known.

In Malaga there are numerous outrages. The spy mania is increasing. Numbers of persons are taken from their houses at night, given a ride in a car to a roadside, and there shot.

A TUNNY STRANDED

A tunny five feet long, and weighing 130lbs., was caught in a few feet of water in Castlecove, Portland Harbour. It was at first thought to be a shark. Four men fishing in boats were attracted by the efforts of the fish to get back into deeper water. They attacked it with oars and forced it nearer to the shore until it was driven on to the sands. It was then found to be a tunny.

M. TITULESCU DROPPED

M. Tatarescu, the Roumanian Prime Minister, yesterday offered his resignation to the King, who invited him to form another Government. In the new Government M. Titulescu is not included. His disappearance was as unexpected to most people as to himself, for apparently he only learned of it after the new Government had been formed. Less than seven weeks ago M. Titulescu had several long talks with the King, and the Cabinet had unanimously approved his foreign policy. It is supposed that he has been rejected because of his tendency to push friendship and collaboration with Soviet Russia beyond the limits to which most Roumanians will go.

31 August-I September

Monday 31

THE DALAI LAMA RECOGNISED

The infant Dalai Lama has been recognised, and will be presented to the public when the Tashi Lama returns to Tibet from exile. Meanwhile his whereabouts are being kept secret. The Tibetans believe that when the Dalai Lama dies his spirit passes to the body of his successor, who is born at the exact moment of his death. Several such children are collected, but the holy one is identified by certain marks. The child was discovered by the Tashi Lama, who met a woman whose two-year-old baby took hold of his beard, and who seemed to fit in with the circumstances of a vision recently experienced by the Regent of Tibet. The Government are considering the authenticity of the revelation.

Tuesday 1 September

ABYSSINIA

The mutilated bodies of two British missionaries have been found by their servant in Southern Abyssinia, where they were waylaid and murdered in May. The mission still has a number of members in the interior, of whom no news has been received since the Emperor's flight.

SPAIN

There was the bitterest fighting yet experienced near Irun. At 7 o'clock in the morning five insurgent aeroplanes dropped thirty 100lb. bombs over the town. Three old men, a child, and two officials were killed. Then the insurgent battery in the angle of Bidassoa opened fire with high explosives on the Government troops entrenched on the central ridge of Zubelzu and Puntza. Two key positions were abandoned. The last man to leave carried a red flag. On the central point of the Zubelzu a heavy battle with trench mortars and grenades raged between the closest trenches of the Government and the insurgents. The Government troops evacuated the position. Insurgent infantry, covered by machine-guns, were rushed half-way up the Puntza, taking cover in the red bracken: but they were too late, for the Government troops had returned to the defence. The insurgents then took refuge in a thick fir-wood. They had made the slope so far. A house near the summit was occupied, the monarchist flag flown from the window, and later smoke curled from the chimneys for the officers' meals. The insurgents next attacked from the extreme right. Their shooting was extremely accurate, and the defence redoubt on the Puntza was evacuated five times. No Government troops within could have survived: later explosions blew up corpses into the air.

The defenders stood their post with the coolest courage. The insurgents' armoured cars poured hail on to their sandbags, and finally the top ones were shorn away. The Government soldiers have no artillery support. Nevertheless, they were calmly firing, cleaning their rifles and firing again from the chairs on which they sat smoking. When ammunition was exhausted, the armoured cars withdrew. Jeers and abuse arose from the defenders. At 9 p.m. the Government still held all their defensive positions. At night the combatants sang abuse to one another; the Frente Popular calling their enemies "sons of priests," the insurgents replying with "Marxist scum."

THE NEW STAMPS

The new King Edward stamps in the $\frac{1}{2}d.$, $1\frac{1}{2}d.$, and $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ denominations were issued at midnight. They are the same size and the same rich colour as the current issue of King George V. The head of the King is displayed on a shaded background, the tone deepening towards the left, to which the King's head is looking. The value is indicated in plain white figures in the top left-hand corner, and balanced on the top right-hand corner by a small crown. Underneath the King's head runs the single word "Postage" in plain lettering. These are the simplest stamps yet issued in this country.

Wednesday 2

SPAIN

Another uncensored dispatch comes from *The Times* correspondent in Valencia. General Mola holds sway in the north. Insurgents at Toledo, however, are suffering great privations. There is no news from Saragossa. In Andalusia the insurgents are not so secure as in the north. There most of the peasants are Reds, and the Regular Army, formed of sons of the people, has no traditions of loyalty. Both sides are calling on reserves, but there is no ammunition or spare guns. Spain is not equipped to build aircraft, lorries, or motor-cars on a big scale. The great question is how many men General Franco has been able to bring over from Morocco. The Government would be strong if they could maintain discipline in their forces.

Meanwhile San Marcial has fallen and Irun is as good as lost. The insurgents broke through the Government lines on Puntza after a terrific bombardment this afternoon. San Marcial, however, still held out, until at 7 o'clock its defenders, deafened, blinded, wounded, or killed by the artillery, ran out of ammunition and fled. About 100 insurgents immediately entered. The

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Government artillery, who had given no help in the morning, now bombarded the heights from which their stubborn militia had at last been driven by the overwhelming insurgent barrage. The insurgents blew the redoubt on Puntza sky-high for the fifth time, which later they entered. At the highest point of the ridge the monarchist flag stood on the redoubt at 3 o'clock. Soon after five the desperate defence at Bidassoa was overcome, after fearful hand-to-hand fighting. Survivors jumped from the reddened roads or windows into the river. San Marcial fell in another two hours. Only a mile and a half of flat open country lies between the insurgents and Irun.

THE CONSTITUTION OF MALTA

The Governor of Malta has proclaimed the Letters Patent which substitute Crown Colony Government for self-government. The Governor is empowered to make laws, but an Executive Council is instituted which he shall always consult except in great urgency and when he considers that consultation prejudices His Majesty's service. English and Maltese shall be the official languages. The privilege of Italians to be tried in Italian is abolished.

A WHALING DISPUTE

New proposals for a settlement of the dispute between Great Britain and Norway over the regulations of whale-catching in Antarctic waters have been presented to the Foreign Office by the Norwegian Chargé d'Affaires. The Norwegian proposals lay no limitation to the catch, and it is contended by British companies that these proposals would work to the advantage of the Norwegian companies and to the disadvantage of the British. The British plan for voluntary limitation of the catch would be much more effective in the preservation of the whale. Norwegian gunners, who were paid up to £1,500 last season, demand an increase of 100 per cent. They also demand that the crews of British whaling vessels shall be 100 per cent Norwegian. British companies are not likely to agree to either of these proposals.

THE ROAD CENSUS

There is an increase of 37 per cent in passenger vehicles since 1931, and 22 per cent in goods vehicles. The most remarkable is the pedal cycle traffic, which has increased by 95 per cent. Horse-drawn vehicles have decreased by 27 per cent. The highest recorded figure for pedal cycles is Magdalen

Bridge, Oxford, which is crossed by an average of twenty cyclists a minute in a sixteen-hour day. The heaviest traffic in an industrial area is on the Great West Road at the G.W.R. bridge near Brentford, where the daily average of vehicles crossing was some 22,000.

THE NEW STAMPS

The new stamps are generally well liked by the public for the absence of dolphins, scrolls, frames, and fussy decoration. Artists vent their irritation in letters to *The Times*, complaining that in such a matter an artist and not a photographer should have been invited. Cynics, not unmindful of the many sensational rumours of His Majesty's personal intentions published in American newspapers, note that the King's head is turned towards the darkness and away from the light.

WAR AMONGST THE INSECTS

Twenty-one million wasps have been collected in east Hungary, where they are a pest, to wage war on the deadly caterpillar which ravages the pine-woods of Canada. The vast air force was appropriately dispatched by aeroplane.

Thursday 3

THE KING IN GALLIPOLI

Early in the morning the Turkish destroyers *Adapepe* and *Kojapepe* met the *Nahlin* off Imbros, and General Fahrettin went aboard bearing a message from Kamal Atatürk welcoming King Edward to Turkish waters. The ships then proceeded to Sedd-ul-Bahr, where the King landed at 11.30. As they passed the spot where H.M.S. *Goliath* was sunk, a wreath was cast into the sea from the *Adapepe*. The King spent two hours visiting and laying wreaths at the cemeteries and battlefields in the southern part of the Gallipoli peninsula.

PALESTINE

There was a clash between an Arab band and British troops ten miles to the north-west of Nablus, resulting in six British and sixteen Arab casualties. An aeroplane crashed, and both occupants were killed.

END OF THE DRY SPELL

In London a fortnight of rainless weather has ended. The day's total of 0.09 inches was the highest since 10 August.

Friday 4

THE KING AT ISTANBUL

In lovely weather the *Nahlin* anchored off Istanbul. King Edward, looking sunburnt and very well, was met by Kamal

Atatürk and Turkish Ministers. He visited the British Embassy, but returned to the yacht for lunch. The streets are decorated and illuminated, and in the garden of the former Seraglio shines the word "Welcome" in electric light.

SPAIN

Irun is in flames, and the Government defenders are struggling back to San Sebastian. The insurgents, with 7,000 men, tanks, and armoured cars, are on all the roads to Irun, but cannot enter for the fire.

The final advance began just after midnight. Twenty men of the Government were left, who stuck to the machine guns till the last round. Then nineteen fled over the border into France, leaving one dead. Between 4 o'clock and dawn, machine-gun posts on the way to Irun were surrounded and the occupants killed. A chance shot hit the dynamite workshop near Irun station, which blazed up in a mighty explosion. This struck panic into the Government leaders, who headed the flight. Only the Anarchists remained behind. They burned most of the cars in the garages, and with the remaining petrol lit houses at all the entrances to the town. They set fire also to the Casino, the Paris Hotel, and the station. They poured petrol over the roofs here and there, until long red tongues of flames were flickering over all the way from the bridge to Irun.

THE WELSH COLLIERY DISPUTE

Prospects of settling a dispute at the Bedwas Colliery are remote. The workers demand the right to choose which union they would like to represent them. Orders for a stoppage of work on Monday have been issued by the Secretary of the South Wales Miners' Federation, which will involve 123,900 colliery workers.

PALESTINE

The Government are proposing to reinforce the military garrison in Palestine. The training of the 1st Division has been cancelled and a number of reservists from Section A of the Army Reserve are being called up to bring some units up to full strength.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE IN GERMANY

Mr. Lloyd George, who is now visiting Germany, lunched with Herr von Ribbentrop, and afterwards drove with him to Herr Hitler's villa at Obersalzberg. They discussed the general political situation in Europe, and the *Führer* described the

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schemes for economic reconstruction, such as road-building and land settlements, which are now proceeding in Germany.

MR. EDEN

Mr. Anthony Eden is suffering from chicken-pox.

Saturday 5

THE WELSH STRIKE

A truce has been arranged in the South Wales coalfields; for the owners of the Bedwas Colliery, to avert the calamity of a strike, intimated to the Secretary for Mines, who was using his influence as mediator, that they are willing to meet the leaders of the Miners' Federation to discuss their ballot proposal. The Federation Executive then called off the strike.

DISASTER IN THE T.T. RACE

A Riley car driven by Jack Chambers, a young Belfast man, developed a skid at Church Street, Newtownards, and the car dashed across the road, struck a lamp-post, and crashed broadside into a crowd of screaming people on the footpath. It ran through the crowd for about twenty yards and crashed into a wall. A boy of fourteen was killed outright and seven others died of their injuries. The driver was injured on the wrists and suffered from bruises and shock, but was able to go home.

MRS. BERYL MARKHAM

The British airwoman, Mrs. Beryl Markham, was forced to land in Cape Breton Island this afternoon after flying 2,700 miles across the Atlantic. She is the first woman to cross alone from east to west.

GERMANY AND NON-INTERVENTION

The British Chargé d'Affaires in Berlin was informed that the German Government are now prepared to join the proposed International Committee for the supervision of the non-intervention agreement.

Sunday 6

THE KING'S HOLIDAY

Yesterday King Edward visited the Sultan Ahmed Mosque and afterwards drank Turkish coffee in the bazaars of Istanbul while making purchases. This afternoon a regatta was held in his honour in Moda Bay. Later the party visited the Presidential villa. The King's visit has given the Turks great pleasure and strengthened their relations with England. They have not intruded on his incognito. In the evening the Royal party left Istanbul for Vienna in the President's special train.

6-7 September

THE FRANCO-SYRIAN TREATY

Negotiations which have been going on in Paris between the French Government and some official representatives of Syria have resulted in a draft treaty of friendship and alliance to take the place of the French Mandate over Syria. By the treaty Syria receives full autonomy, subject to a military convention, whereby France can maintain armed forces in the territories of Jebel Druze and Latakia. Further, two aerodromes shall be at the disposal of the French in Syria, and the future Syrian Army shall employ French instructors, and use the same armaments and equipment as the French military forces.

Monday 7

THE CABINET AND PALESTINE

The Colonial Office issued a statement of policy concerning Palestine. After describing the development of the situation from a political strike, through murder and outrage, to guerilla warfare, the statement shows that neither the forbearance of the authorities nor the appointment of the Royal Commission to inquire into the situation as soon as the disorders shall cease has produced any effect. The Arab leaders refuse to call off the strike unless the British Government changes its policy entirely, and the efforts of the King of Saudi Arabia, of the Emir of Transjordan, and of General Nuri Pasha, the Foreign Minister of Iraq, to persuade them to take a more accommodating attitude, have failed. Outrages and disorders continue, and the Government have therefore decided to take rapid action to bring these troubles to an end.

A division is being sent to Palestine, and Lieutenant-General J. G. Dill, D.S.O., has been placed in supreme military command. The Government regret that this action has been forced upon them, especially as friendship with Moslem peoples is a constant aim of British policy, but they cannot yield to violence and outrage.

THE T.U.C. AND SPAIN

In his Presidential address to the Trades Union Congress at Plymouth, Mr. A. A. H. Findlay spoke at great length on international affairs. When he referred to the sacrifice of workers in defence of constitutional government in Spain, the whole body of delegates rose to their feet for a moment in silent tribute. He sharply criticised the "atrocities-mongering" Press. Referring to Soviet Russia, he said the Moscow executions occasioned deep distress here to trade unionists. Nevertheless, he thought Russia was contributing usefully towards

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world peace. The Congress acquiesced in the words of a telegram of greetings sent to the head of the Spanish Government.

UNEMPLOYMENT

There are 66,000 more people at work in comparison with last month. In comparison with three years ago the increase exceeds 1,000,000.

A SEPTEMBER GALE

The wind reached the force of a gale in many parts of the country, and was generally strong and squally. At Pembroke a speed of seventy-nine miles an hour was reached.

Tuesday 8

THE KING IN VIENNA

King Edward, travelling in Kamal Atatürk's special train, reached Vienna at 1 p.m., looking bronzed and fit after his holiday. Hundreds of Viennese and foreigners waited to give him the friendly but unobtrusive welcome which Vienna habitually accords to the Duke of Lancaster. In the afternoon he visited the Diana swimming-baths.

AN AERODROME SET ON FIRE

Considerable damage has been done by fire to an aerodrome and camp at Penrhos, near Pwllheli, in Wales. Three men, all Welsh Nationalists, admit that they were responsible for the fire.

PALESTINE

News of the British statement of policy was met by the Jewish community with cries of "At last!" but has struck dismay in Arab circles. Lieutenant-General J. G. Dill, the newly appointed commander, has left London for Marseilles, where he will embark for Palestine. The War Office announces the embarkation of other reinforcements throughout September.

MUTINY IN LISBON

People in Lisbon were awakened by gunfire early this morning. The crews of the sloop *Afonso de Albuquerque* and the destroyer *Dao* had mutinied, but they were fired on from the coast and the ships disabled. The Government say that they had foreknowledge of the attempt, which has caused disgust throughout the Navy and the country.

NANDA DEVI SCALED

A message brought by runner from the base camp of the British-American Nanda Devi Expedition states that two

8 September

members of the party, whose names are not given, succeeded in reaching the summit on 29 August. The peak is 25,660 feet high, the highest in British India.

PRINCESS JULIANA BETROTHED

The engagement is announced of Princess Juliana of the Netherlands and Prince Bernhard of Lippe-Biesterfeld. The news has caused great satisfaction and joy throughout Holland.

THE SUN LANGUAGE CONGRESS

In the last few days a Language Congress has been held in the Dolma Bagtche Palace in Istanbul. For several days the sessions have been occupied by lectures lasting about four hours, each on various aspects of the Sun Language theory. Kamal Atatürk and his Prime Minister, General İnönü, were present the whole time. According to the Sun Language theory, every word in every language can be reduced to a formula based on the signs used by primitive man when he began to express his feelings in speech. Kamal Atatürk is determined that this new theory shall be accepted by the whole Turkish nation. He is prompted by two main ideals: first, that the Turks shall regard themselves as the oldest of all civilised races; and secondly, that it shall be proved that there is no borrowed word in the Turkish language, for the theory shows, to his satisfaction, that all languages have a common origin. Thus the ideal of ridding Turkish of all its foreign words, whether Arabic, Persian, or French, has no longer any significance.

SELF-HELP

An empty double-decker omnibus, which had been reported missing from Swanley, Dartford, was found standing in front of Ealing Police Court. Detectives watched, hoping that the thief would climb into the driving-seat, but nobody came, and eventually the bus was driven back to the garage. Late last night, while the bus was standing outside Swanley garage ready to be cleaned, a man had asked when the next omnibus left for London. He was told that he was unlucky, as the last had already gone. Apparently the inquirer thereupon took himself home.

A SURPRISE PACKET

When the mail train from Calcutta reached Choodanga this morning, guards found a decapitated body in one of the bags. All the mails had disappeared.

Wednesday 9

STAY-IN STRIKES IN WALES

Sixty men who had engaged in a stay-in strike at the Fernhill Colliery since Thursday week returned to the surface, looking remarkably fit. These frequent stay-in strikes are causing grave concern, and lend colour to the view that the Federation seems to have lost control of its extremist ranks. A serious element is the reported interference with officials who maintain safety and ventilation. At Fernhill the strikers deliberately took away their lamps and threatened to keep them down the mine if they resisted.

THE NAZI RALLY

The eighth Nazi Rally began at Nuremberg. The chief event is the ceremonious proclamation of the *Führer*. Herr Hitler dealt at length with the problem that Germany is not a self-supporting country in respect to foodstuffs and raw materials. It shows a lack of reasoning power, said he, to reproach for its cheap exports a nation which must pay for the foodstuffs which it lacks through its exports. When a British statesman declares that Germany does not require colonies because she is able to purchase her raw materials from abroad, it is as brilliant as the suggestion of the Bourbon Princess who told the mob which howled for bread to eat cake. He then announced the new four-year plan, which provides that within four years Germany shall be independent of all foreign countries in respect of those materials which she can produce at home by means of German ingenuity, and the mining, engineering, and chemical industries. Nevertheless, Germany cannot relinquish her colonial demands. The German's right to live is as great as that of any other country. He then spoke of the spread of Bolshevist propaganda, and explained this as the cause of Germany's military preparations. "We do not fear a Bolshevist invasion of Germany, not because we think it unlikely, but because we are determined to make the nation so strong that it will be able to ward off every attack with brutal determination."

PALESTINE

Violent incidents indicate the Arabs' displeasure at the British announcement of reinforcements for Palestine. Detachments of the Palestinian police and the York and Lancaster Regiment were fired on by about fifty Arabs, and a corporal and a British constable killed. A mail car on the Roshpina road was fired on, but escaped undamaged. An armed Arab band attacked a party of Jewish labourers in the Tiberias district

9-10 September

and seriously injured one. An attempt to mine the Tulkarm-Nablus road was frustrated by the discovery of the mine. As a punishment, an adjacent house was demolished.

MR. BALDWIN'S HOLIDAY

Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin have arrived at Blickling Hall, Norfolk, where Mr. Baldwin, on the advice of his doctors, will extend his holiday. He is physically fit and able to enjoy the quiet pleasures of a stay in the country, but has not yet recovered from the severe mental and nervous strain imposed by the exceptional pressure of work and worries of the past twelve months. The Prime Minister's colleagues desire that his holiday should be prolonged as much as possible, but the announcement produces a crop of rumours and speculations.

Thursday 10

THE KING IN VIENNA

Yesterday King Edward visited the industrial section of the Vienna Home Fair and took particular interest in the British-Indian pavilion. He then called on President Miklas at the Chancery. In the afternoon he spent an hour or two in the Lainzer Country Club, and later the President returned his visit at the British Legation. To-day he has had some excellent partridge-shooting, accounting for seventy-eight birds. At the Lainzer Golf Club he talked freely with the men scything the course. He took the scythe from one of them and cut a patch of grass, afterwards discussing with them the difference between English and Austrian scythes.

THE "GIRL PAT"

George Black Orsborne, skipper of the Grimsby trawler *Girl Pat*, and his brother, James Black Orsborne, a grocer, appeared at Bow Street charged with having stolen the ship in territorial waters. For the prosecution it was stated that at the end of March George Orsborne was employed by the Marstrand Fishing Company to take the trawler *Gipsy Love* to the fishing-grounds. George Orsborne signed on with a crew of three, and the boat sailed on 31 March with James aboard as a stowaway; but the engines went wrong and they put back to Grimsby. They then transferred to the *Girl Pat*, where there was an engineer already on board called Jefferson. They set sail again, and George Orsborne said, "We won't fish outside, but we'll go southerly." So they went to Dover, where George said they must get rid of Jefferson. They came ashore at Dover, made Jefferson drunk, and sailed away without him. Thence

they made for Jersey. George produced an atlas and said they would use that for navigation; he only had charts for the North Sea. When asked by the crew where they were going, he said they might be going fishing for oysters for pearls. The vessel next made for a port in Spain, but before they reached there the name and fishing letters were blacked out. The crew were then told that they were going to Capetown, and the log-book was faked to this effect. By this time inquiries were being made about the missing ship. At Dakar a representative of Lloyd's offered to have the engine repaired, but George replied that it was a special one, and he had promised the owners not to let anyone look at it for seven months. While arrangements were in process to detail the ship, she sailed away. The *Girl Pat* then appeared at Georgetown, where the Orsbornes were finally arrested.

Friday 11

FRANCO-POLISH FRIENDSHIP

M. Bastid, the French Minister of Industry and Commerce, has gone to Warsaw. The purpose of his visit is to establish contact with the competent Polish authorities with a view to the closer technical and economic collaboration foreseen in the arrangements concluded between the French and Polish military leaders a few days ago.

SPAIN

While the insurgents are at bay, new armies are being raised and equipped. In Madrid the Cabinet issues edict after edict regulating the conditions under which citizens may be arrested and tried, whilst the unions and syndicates continue to arrest, judge, and execute. Bodies of the executed are often abandoned in the streets till collected by the sanitary authorities. In other cases guards remain on duty by the victims, pistol on hip, and smoking, while gathering crowds close in on the corpses like buzzing flies. On Sunday, 24 August, many distinguished political prisoners were shot in the Model Prison. One report says that Syndicalists, wishing to liberate their comrades—common criminals—rushed the prison, started the fire, rescued their friends and shot down the rest. Another says that some prisoners obtained arms by bribing the officials and fought their way out. A conservative estimate gives the death-roll up to date as 3,000.

The Government forces have attempted to recapture Majorca. A force of 6,000 men sailed from Barcelona; 2,000 were killed in the landing. The survivors ultimately withdrew

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to Valencia. They lost twelve field-guns, four trench-mortars, 2,500 rifles, and a great quantity of grenades and ammunition.

THE KING'S HOLIDAY

King Edward received in audience Dr. von Schuschnigg, the Austrian Chancellor. He lunched and played a round of golf with Baron Rothschild, and later again visited Professor Neumann, the aurist.

THE LILLE STRIKE

There has been further unrest at Lille, where 31,000 strikers in the textile industry occupied the mills. M. Salengro, the Minister of the Interior, persuaded them to evacuate the mills. He had a difficult task, but, after addressing 1,000 union delegates at the Labour Exchange, when he urged them to avoid extreme actions and above all to leave the mills, the textile union leaders urgently advised the delegates to take his advice.

A RADIO TALK WITH THE "QUEEN MARY"

A "ship-to-shore" radio-telephone conference took place from the *Queen Mary* in mid-Atlantic between representatives of London newspapers in their offices and a director of the Dictaphone Company on board the liner. The object was to show how a business man returning from abroad can get in touch with his branch offices and make himself acquainted with the latest developments in the affairs of his firm before resuming his duties.

ITALY AFTER SANCTIONS

Count Ciano, the Italian Foreign Minister, gave the Cabinet a survey of the commercial situation. Since the lifting of sanctions negotiations had been opened with all the sanctionist States except Holland and Great Britain. Great Britain had claimed that Italian exports should be ear-marked for the payment of Italian commercial duties contracted before sanctions, first in their entirety and afterwards at a very high percentage.

Saturday 12

A HELPFUL ELEPHANT

Dixie, the Whipsnade Zoo elephant, with her two children, aged seven and eight, has been acting for the films at Denham, Bucks. As they were on their way back to Whipsnade, the two lorries and trailers in which they were travelling stuck fast on Scots Hill, Rickmansworth. Dixie was brought out of her trailer, and without prompting she put her head against the

trailer in which her two youngsters were being carried and pushed. Soon lorry and trailer were at the top. Then she went back to her own lorry and pushed vigorously, and soon had that at the top too. At first she would not, however, enter her own trailer, but insisted on turning round and backing on to it. By this time a number of cars had collected on the congested road. As the lorries moved forward there was much cheering, which Dixie acknowledged by waving her trunk.

Sunday 13

THE NAZI RALLY

The Nazi Rally is being worked up to the desired anti-Bolshevist climax. Herr Hitler, talking to a group of foreign journalists on the balcony of the old castle, emphasised the absolute blind obedience which he could command in any struggle which might appear necessary against the forces variously labelled Bolshevist, Marxist, or Communist. To-day's march past in Nuremberg alone presented about 120,000 disciplined, armed men.

On Saturday, 400 military aircraft flew low over the railway station as Herr Hitler went to the meeting. Standing in his motor-car as the machines swept across the street, the *Führer* turned round several times and, looking up, his face broke into a smile of pride, which was communicated subtly to the watching crowds.

In his speech at the morning parade he spoke of the miracle of regenerated Germany, and the faithful sacrifice of his followers. "Who will dare," said he, "to raise his hand against such confidence and faith? Let no one deceive himself about us. We are ready at any hour. We want nothing but peace. We have no hatred against any other peoples, but Germany shall never become Bolshevist. In another land there is devastation, grim murder, and ruin. Here is laughter, happiness, and beauty. Our people are disciplined."

SAN SEBASTIAN FALLS

San Sebastian, abandoned by the defenders after a long and bitter argument between the Government leaders, has fallen to the insurgents with little or no bloodshed. The defenders fired or dynamited several buildings and carried off all objects of value.

A DISASTER IN NORWAY

A great rock from the Ravnefjeld, a mountain in western Norway, fell into the Loen Lake, and caused an immense wave

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which overwhelmed houses all along the shores. Seventy-four out of the 100 people who lived round the lake were killed. In the rural district of Boedal, opposite the fall, only a dairy remained. A woman who had gone up the mountain to feed her goats saw her home, with all her relatives, disappear in the wave, which in some places reached a height of 100 yards. A steamer on the lake has totally disappeared.

ACTIVITIES OF THE AGED

In Belgrade a man of a hundred and his wife, aged a hundred and one, have asked for a divorce by mutual consent. The husband complained that only the first thirty of their seventy-five years of married life were really harmonious, for his wife would not accompany him when he went hiking. Also she read too many trashy novels.

In Norfolk, Mr. George Skeet has celebrated his hundredth birthday. He still enjoys good health. At the age of ninety-seven he became the father of a daughter.

Monday 14

HITLER'S NEW OUTBURST

Herr Hitler's closing speech at the Party Rally was an appeal and a warning to Europe against the Bolshevist menace in extremely violent terms. He declared passionately that National-Socialist Germany could not enter into any kind of bargain with the Bolshevist outlook; they could not negotiate with Bolshevism. He described Bolsheviks as murderers, conspirators, robbers, and destroyers. The whole of civilisation was menaced by Bolshevism. Democracy disintegrates the European States and forms the channel along which Bolshevism pours its poison. If it succeeds, Europe will relapse into a sea of blood and grief. Unlike the Germans, British politicians had never had the chance of learning what Communism was. He then dealt with Germany's internal problems, and gave special warning to pessimists and grouse.

After the speech, which lasted nearly an hour and a half, there was an air display. The airship *Hindenburg* added to the spectacle. With the aid of vigorous arm-waving by General Göring, she presented herself on parade, floating motionless and low down, symmetrically stationed over the saluting base at the moment when Marshal von Blomberg led the 20,000 men of all arms past the *Führer*. Amongst the spectators was the Military Attaché of Soviet Russia.

PRINCE STARHEMBERG DEPOSED

The Vienna Heimwehr have unanimously deposed Prince Starhemberg as their leader and appointed Major Fey. The Prince has thus been ousted from every position he has held in political life, except that of leader of the Austrian Sports Front and head of the Austrian Mothers' Relief Department.

THE TRIAL OF McMAHON

At the Central Criminal Court, George Andrew McMahon was found guilty of unlawfully and wilfully producing near the person of the King a pistol with intent to alarm His Majesty. He was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour. McMahon said that he had been in touch with a foreign Power who wanted him to do some spy work for them. He informed the War Office. He had been introduced to this foreign Power by a certain English person, whose name he handed to the judge on a slip of paper. They had urged him to make an attack on the King at the Trooping of the Colour. He was to shoot the King and to receive £150 for doing it. He was not quite himself.

THE LIBEL RACKET

At the Annual Conference of the Institute of Journalists the President, Mr. Hugh Dawson, criticised the scandal of the "libel racket." "The present state of the law," he said, "is calculated to restrict the scope of free criticism and to give newspapers pause before they set out to expose a public scandal. An English judge not long deceased said he knew there was a large number of fraudulent persons unexposed because of the severity of the rules of law in respect to defendants in cases of defamation, and he described the circumstances of many attempts to extort damages from newspaper proprietors as little better than disguised blackmail."

THE RETURN OF THE KING

The King has returned from Zürich by air. His Majesty's private aeroplane landed at Feltham, Middlesex, about 6.30, whence he motored to Fort Belvedere. After less than an hour there he motored to Buckingham Palace, where he dined with Queen Mary.

TELEVISION

The B.B.C. announces that the recent public demonstrations of television at Radiolympia served a very useful purpose in providing preliminary guidance on technical and programme problems.

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Tuesday 15

PALESTINE

The Higher Arab Committee has been officially informed that the proposed congress of town committees will not be allowed to meet. This action is presumably prompted by the fear that the meeting might serve to inflame the people by giving scope to extremist oratory. Two Arabs were sentenced to death for having fired on troops. This is the first sentence of death to be imposed.

Wednesday 16

DISASTER IN ICELAND

The French exploring ship *Pourquoi pas?* has been totally wrecked in a hurricane. Thirty bodies, including that of Dr. Charcot, the leader of the expedition, were washed ashore on the coast of Iceland. There is only one survivor, who was found unconscious, floating with a piece of wreckage near the shore. He was taken to a farm and given coffee, and fell asleep. Later he said that the ship sprang a leak and the engines stopped. Terrific seas broke over her, and a boiler exploded. The vessel was submerged by heavy waves, and one by one the crew were washed overboard.

Thursday 17

THE KING AT OLYMPIA

The King paid a visit to the Building Exhibition at Olympia. His arrival was unexpected both by exhibitors and visitors, and it was some time before it was known that he was in the building. He spent most of his time viewing the Housing Centre work, and encountered many quotations from his own speeches on the housing needs of the country made when he was Prince of Wales. Sir Reginald Rowe, Chairman of the Executive of the Housing Centre, fainted from the heat, but recovered to accompany the King round the exhibition.

THE FRENCH STRIKE ENDED

An agreement has been reached between employers and workers of the textile industry. In return for assurances that they will be protected from extremism in the future, the employers grant a wage increase of 6 per cent.

THE TOMB OF MARGARET OF YORK

The tomb of Margaret of York, sister of King Edward IV, and third wife of Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy, who died on 23 November, 1503, has been discovered in the former Friars' Church at Malines, in Belgium. Archæologists for several

years have been searching for the tomb, which was supposed to contain many of the jewels of the House of Burgundy. When the tomb was opened it was discovered that vandals in 1580 had already removed the jewels and deposited other bodies there.

POOR RESPONSE TO RECRUITING

Recruiting for the new infantry section of the Supplementary Reserve was opened on 1 September, but the results have been worse than disappointing. Only 286 men have enlisted. The southern half of the country has yielded particularly poor results. Northern Ireland is worst of all, with only nine enlistments.

THE TERCENTENARY OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY

On the second day of the tercentenary celebrations of Harvard University, 10,000 alumni gathered for a service of thanksgiving and remembrance and innumerable class reunions. A temporary theatre had been set up in the Yard. Here greetings and gifts were presented to the University by Harvard Clubs all over the world, which included a marble dragon from Chinese alumni and a granite lantern from the Japanese. Dr. Conant, the President of the University, then announced that a packet sealed by President Quincy at the bicentenary celebrations in 1836 had been opened, and found to contain only letters from alumni and a banner used on that occasion. This banner, showing the insignia of Harvard on a white field, was again used. Amongst the many speeches of the morning was one by Dr. Thomas Hele, Master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where John Harvard was a student. In the evening there was a procession of boats, with fireworks, on the Charles River, and buildings were flood-lit. Afterwards 2,000 undergraduates held a torchlight procession from the river to the Yard.

Friday 18

LA CRESCENTA CASE ENDED

At the Central Criminal Court, Mr. Justice Greaves-Lord directed the jury that there was no evidence to go before them in the case in which Sydney Graham, company director, and Ralph Holland, ship's manager, were charged with attempting to send to sea on three occasions a British ship, the S.S. *La Crescenta*, in such an unseaworthy condition that the lives of persons were likely to be endangered thereby, and with conspiring together to incite the master of the ship to load her in contravention of Section 44 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1932. Mr. Justice Greaves-Lord said, "I can quite understand

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people having a suspicion that there may have been something in the nature of overloading, but our law does not recognise such a thing as suspicion as being a justification for a conviction."

SPAIN

Two mines drilled under the Alcázar of Toledo exploded this morning. The explosion shook the country for miles round. For many days the defenders had been hearing the sound of pick and drill coming nearer. On Thursday there was silence. The end was at hand. Only one officer fled. At dawn the inhabitants of the town gathered outside to watch the old castle. The militia stood ready to assault as soon as the wreckage subsided, but they were met with machine-gun fire when they rushed forward, which showed that some of the garrison were alive, fighting to the last. There were about 1,000 defenders in the Alcázar, and about 400 women and children. To-night the Red Flag flies above the ruins in which they are buried. Few of the defenders are believed to have survived.

CAMPBELL BLACK KILLED

At Speke Aerodrome, Liverpool, Captain T. Campbell Black was killed in extraordinary circumstances. He was demonstrating to a large crowd the new machine, *Miss Liverpool*, in which he was to have flown in the Portsmouth-Johannesburg race. While the *Miss Liverpool* was taxi-ing at a moderate speed an R.A.F. machine, a Hawker Hart light bomber, landed, and, taxi-ing, crashed into her head on. The airscrew slashed the wing of the *Miss Liverpool* and made a big gash in the cockpit. Campbell Black's shoulder was terribly injured, and he died on the way to hospital.

AN UNUSUAL APPETITE

A labourer recently admitted to hospital in Trieste said he could not go home because he had swallowed the front-door key. This was scientifically proved when an intricate operation revealed in the man's stomach thirteen ordinary keys, a large door-key, a screw, a sardine-tin opener, three cigarette-holders, a spoon, fifteen pencils, five fountain-pens, four penknives, a safety-razor holder, two needles, a piece of glass, four 2-lire coins, one 50-centesimi coin, and a key chain. The operation was successful, and the patient's first words were to inquire whether the 8.50 lire which he had swallowed had been found.

20-21 September

Sunday 20

THE KING AT BALMORAL

The King has gone north. He arrived at Ballater on Saturday after an all-night journey from London, accompanied by the Duke of York. To-day he and other members of the Royal Family attended morning service at Crathie.

SPAIN

Those who survived the explosion in the Alcázar at Toledo are still holding out. On Saturday, Government artillery continued to fire on the wreckage; to-day Government troops sprayed petrol on the points believed to be occupied by the insurgents, who retreated from the flames only to continue their fusillade from another spot.

Monday 21

DILEMMA AT GENEVA

No decision was reached by the League Credentials Committee concerning the rights of the Ethiopian delegation to sit and vote in the Assembly. The committee announce that they require further information regarding conditions in western Ethiopia. An attempt was made to put the responsibility for finding this on Great Britain. It was ingenuously pleaded that Abyssinia was far away, and that some nations could not form an opinion, whereas others had possessions nearer the spot and might be requested to furnish the committee with a more accurate picture of the facts. The invitation was declined. The delegation will continue to sit and vote until a decision is reached, possibly after an appeal to the Hague Court. The Italian delegates' places in the Assembly were vacant.

SPAIN

The struggle for the Alcázar at Toledo continues with unabated violence. It is believed that resistance is slowly being crushed, but the militia are unable to make any great headway.

CHANGES AT THE PALACE

While the King is at Balmoral, workmen are busy at Buckingham Palace. There are a number of minor alterations which the King wishes to be carried out in the suite of rooms on the ground floor that he has chosen for his own use; but he did not finally decide the details until he returned from his yachting holiday.

ATTACK ON JEWS

The trial was concluded of Arnold Spencer Leese, proprietor, and Walter Whitehead, printer, of the newspaper *Fascist*. They

21-22 September

were found guilty on charges of publishing and printing a seditious libel concerning people of the Jewish faith and His Majesty's subjects of the Jewish faith: publishing and printing divers scandalous and libellous statements regarding His Majesty's Jewish subjects with intent to create ill-will between His Majesty's subjects of the Jewish faith and those not of the Jewish faith, so as to create a public mischief.

Leese had published a report of Jewish ritual slaughter of cattle, and hinted at ritual child murder amongst the Jews. He declared that his motives were purely political. He had never had anything to do with Sir Oswald Mosley, whose advent to the Fascist party he regarded as a disaster to Fascism and the Fascist cause.

"Well," observed the judge, "perhaps a little meditation will be good for you. You will meditate in prison for six months."

THE WHALE FISHERIES

After long negotiations, the British and Norwegian Governments have reached agreement to prevent excessive inroads into the stock of whales. A close season is to be established from March to December, and the number of whale-catchers allowed to be used at any one time by any ship will vary from seven to five, according to a classification agreed upon by the two Governments. The whaling-ships will all carry inspectors, who will ensure compliance with the regulations and also safeguard the terms of the agreement, and the Governments of the Dominions have been asked to make similar provisions.

Tuesday 22

SPAIN

An insurgent column captured Maqueda, twenty-five miles north-west of Toledo, and insurgents claim that they will soon be able to raise the siege of the Alcázar, which they have made a point of honour. Government artillery continue to bombard the limestone and granite ruins unceasingly, and the immense strength of the underground cellars in the Alcázar is being proved, though the strain on them increases. It is considered that the battle for Madrid has now begun.

THE VICEROY OF INDIA'S SPEECH

Lord Linlithgow, Viceroy of India, yesterday addressed a joint meeting of the Indian Legislature before a brilliant assembly. The gathering was one of the largest ever seen in the Assembly Chamber. He said that the proposed constitutional

changes in breadth and boldness of design were without parallel in political history, and he contrasted the liberal experiment in India with contrary political tendencies so evident in various parts of the world. He was well aware that some in the country were dissatisfied with certain provisions of the new scheme. He accepted with sincerity their opinion, even if he was unable to endorse their views. He would be found ready and anxious to co-operate with any and every political party willing to work the Constitution that might be able to win the elections.

The speech has made a deep impression in India, and is appreciated even in the Congress Press for its sincerity and earnestness.

Wednesday 23

THE STRUGGLE FOR MADRID

The Alcázar at Toledo has fallen. Spurred on by the approach of the insurgents, the Government militia made a fresh attack this morning, and by mid-day the cadets had abandoned all their positions. The insurgents are believed to be preparing a decisive attack on Madrid. For some days they have been accumulating men and munitions in the south-west. The Government claim to have heavily defeated an insurgent attack in the Guadarrama hills near the reservoir which supplies Madrid with water. The insurgents, so they say, left 400 dead.

THE ABYSSINIANS AND THE LEAGUE

The Credentials Committee presented their second report to the Assembly, as a result of which Abyssinia remains a member of the League of Nations, though with provisional status. No one was more surprised than the Abyssinians themselves. Italy will continue an absentee. There were rumours that Italy may now announce her resignation from the League, but they are discredited by the delegations which voted to-night in the dissentient minority.

AN INCIDENT IN SHANGHAI

Three Japanese bluejackets were fired on by Chinese assailants while looking into a lighted shop window in Shanghai. One was killed. The Japanese have put a cordon round Hongkew, the International Settlement, stopped all inward and outward traffic, and stationed parties of marines for the protection of Japanese residents. The attack is regarded as having been deliberately planned for a political motive.

A PLAY ABOUT PARNELL ALLOWED

After prolonged negotiation with the producer and the various relatives of the families concerned, the Lord Chamberlain

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has consented to license for public performance Mrs. Elsie Schaufler's play about Parnell. The Lord Chamberlain agreed to raise the ban on the play provided that members of the O'Shea family would raise no objection, and would agree to certain alterations in the play.

BIG BEN STOPS

A painter at work in Big Ben left his ladder in the works, which caused the clock to stop for three-quarters of an hour this morning.

CIRCUS LIONS ESCAPE

Four lions escaped from their cage in Chapman's Travelling Circus at Braintree. Two were caught immediately. The other two ran off through an orchard. One killed two fowls at the back of a bungalow and then approached the back door. The householder shooed the lion away and shut the door in its face. It then called next door, and jumped through the kitchen window, breaking a pane of glass. An invalid woman screamed and ran upstairs. Circus attendants and police surrounded the house, placed a cage outside the door, and the lion entered without trouble. The other was caught in the same way. The owner of the circus said the lions were quietly disposed, and would give their performance in the afternoon in the usual way.

Thursday 24

SPAIN

Insurgent leaders, including Generals Franco and Mola, held a conference at Salamanca to plan the encirclement of Madrid and the relief of the few defenders remaining in the cellars of the Alcázar in Toledo. Government forces have opened the Alberche dam and flooded the valley of the Tagus to cut off the advance of Colonel Yagüe's column, and to destroy insurgent supply dumps which air observers had seen along the banks. The insurgent ultimatum for Bilbao to surrender expires tomorrow, and an attack on the town is expected to begin directly afterwards. Meanwhile the International Red Cross are struggling to gain the release of the hostages held by the Government. There are about 4,000 in ships anchored off the coast where the insurgents are likely to bombard. They are not badly treated, but provisions are running short.

THE INCIDENT IN SHANGHAI

Excitement in the Hongkew district has calmed down. The streets are crowded with Chinese visiting the scene where the Japanese naval officials attended a conference on board the

flagship *Idzumo*. They are not making capital out of the incident, but have landed 400 marines, and the Admiral has issued a warning to the population to keep cool, as these measures are for self-protection.

Friday 25

SINO-JAPANESE RELATIONS

The Japanese are behaving with extreme correctness, but Tokyo takes a very serious view of the recent incident in Shanghai. Mr. Hirota, the Japanese Prime Minister, is reported to have informed the Chinese Ambassador that General Chiang Kai-shek is returning to conduct negotiations. He is also credited with stating that the Chinese Government either fails to understand what is happening or lacks power to maintain order in the country.

MAIDEN CASTLE

The excavations at Maiden Castle, in Dorset, have revealed an adult burial dating from the earliest Iron Age camp of about 300 B.C. A circular pit had been carefully dug to a depth of four feet at the foot of the earliest rampart of the castle, and the dead person laid on the chalk bottom. It is possible that the burial was ceremonial, involving human sacrifice, for it was the custom to bury a first-born, or some person, under the foundation of a new building to bring it luck.

Saturday 26

PALESTINE

At Jenin, British troops for the first time took the offensive without waiting for the attack. Satisfaction is expressed at the result. Information was received that a body of Arabs had concentrated to ambush a convoy. The troops moved against them and kept them engaged while the Royal Air Force bombed them. The Arabs lost nearly sixty. Two more troopships have reached Haifa.

THE FRANC TO BE DEVALUED

A monetary agreement between Great Britain, the United States, and France is announced, under which the French Government are to propose to their Parliament a readjustment of the franc. The franc is to be devalued to a level equivalent to 107 to the pound. An exchange stabilisation fund of 10,000,000,000 francs will be set up. This is regarded as an important step towards the ultimate stabilisation of world currencies.

26-28 September

A RECORD RAILWAY SPEED

The *Silver Jubilee*, Britain's first streamlined train, accomplished a record run from Newcastle to Edinburgh. She carried the customary number of carriages, but the only passengers were railway officials. The train left Newcastle at 11.5 a.m. and reached Edinburgh just as the 1 o'clock gun boomed from Edinburgh Castle.

THE KING AT BALMORAL

King Edward carried out a wish of King George when in the library of Balmoral Castle he invested the Rev. John Stirton, retiring minister of Crathie Church, with the insignia of the C.V.O. The ceremony was followed by a cinema entertainment in the castle ballroom given at the special command of His Majesty by the Gaumont-British Picture Corporation.

Sunday 27

SPAIN

A message from Madrid states that Toledo has been captured by the insurgents under General Varela, who himself liberated the cadets. Fighting raged for two days. The insurgent defenders in the Alcázar joined in the battle, though their clothes were in rags and their sufferings during the six weeks' siege had so weakened them that they could do little more than stagger out into the streets. They were followed by the women, who knelt down and wept for joy. The Government troops were driven off after heavy fighting. The insurgents used aircraft, flying low and firing machine guns at the troops on the ground. Government forces brought down a large Caproni machine. Its five occupants landed by parachute and still continued to put up fight: all but one were killed. While fighting was going on round Burgos, which is visible from the Alcázar, it is reported that the garrison made a sortie. A Civil Guard's hat was seen waving among the ruins. When the militia fired at it, jeers and laughter rose from within. The Catalan Cabinet has issued a manifesto declaring "war to the knife" on Fascism.

Monday 28

JAPANESE WARNING TO CHINA

The Japanese Foreign Minister invited foreign correspondents to tea, and informed them that China had one more chance to make her peace with Japan, but its duration was limited. Negotiations had been fruitless. If they broke down, measures to protect Japanese life and property would be necessary. He declared that Japan had not formulated a concrete programme, but expected China to submit proposals.

MR. BALDWIN'S HOLIDAY

The Prime Minister will end his stay in Norfolk this week. He will then go to stay with friends in another part of the country. Mr. Chamberlain is to take his place at the final meeting of the Conference of the National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations, when he will be in a position to report that the Prime Minister's health has improved considerably as a result of the long rest which he has been enabled to take since the House of Commons adjourned at the end of July.

A NEW HEIGHT RECORD

A new world's height record was set up by Squadron-Leader F. R. D. Swain in a special high-flying machine. He reached a height of 49,967 feet during a flight which lasted 3 hours 20 minutes. When descending, he suffered unpleasant sensations of suffocation and his entire outlook was obscured by mist frozen on the cockpit cover and the transparent panel in his helmet. Ultimately he had to cut himself out with a sheath-knife. When at a height of 46,000 feet somewhere over Brighton he looked down and could see the whole of the English coastline from Margate to Land's End and northwards almost as far as the Wash. "London," he said, "looked like a toy town and the Thames and other rivers were like pieces of narrow ribbon. To the south I could see the north coast of France and the Channel Islands looking like small stones in a narrow river-bed. I confess I felt very small and lonely and I had the impression that England was a very little country."

Tuesday 29

PUBLIC SAFETY IN PALESTINE

The text of the Palestine Martial Law (Defence) Order in Council, which was approved by the Privy Council at a meeting at Balmoral on Saturday, is now published. It enables the High Commissioner to delegate to the General Officer Commanding the Forces in Palestine power to make regulations for securing public safety and the defence of Palestine. These regulations include censorship of publications, writings, and photographs; control of harbours, ports, and territorial waters; control of aerodromes and aircraft; transportation control; disposition of property; the imposition of fines on bodies of persons and corporations.

Wednesday 30

THE STATE OF MADRID

A dispatch to *The Times* from Madrid describes conditions in the city, and the danger in which it now stands owing to

the advance of the insurgents to Toledo. The situation is grim. The difficulty of food-supplies has increased. The only railway communication left open is that from Madrid to Valencia, and the insurgents are within twenty miles of it. All available forces are being hurried south-west. "Rifles to the front" is a slogan repeated in the Labour Press, but not adequately obeyed. When manœuvring qualities are demanded of the militia, their lack of training becomes painfully evident. Another cause of depression is the increase in the insurgent aircraft. Daily executions continue. The bodies of two murdered women have been added to the morgue—both wives of distinguished men. Clandestine courts continue to function. It is still enough for the accused to be a nobleman or a priest to be condemned to death. The dead are sometimes photographed and their relatives advised where to find the bodies.

The new Spanish Cabinet has bent all its energies to meet the advancing insurgent forces and to introduce order into a situation that was rapidly slipping towards chaos in the hands of the outpaced "pure Republican" mandatories of the Frente Popular. The difficulty of the task is shown in the fact that of forty-nine provinces only eighteen may be counted as entirely loyal to the Government. The Government is obliged to draw on the gold reserve for its finances. General Mola is said to be financed by forced levies, the millions of Señor March, the tobacco king, and the funds of the Jesuits. Staple foods come from regions under insurgent control. Economic redistribution and production become a factor essential to victory.

It has never been properly understood that the practical effect of the arms embargo is to prevent the Government from rearming, whilst the insurgents have continued to receive supplies of arms, especially of aeroplanes. The Republic of Workers declares that Europe has in this matter been "unworthy of herself."

THE FRANC BILL PASSED

The Franc Devaluation Bill was passed by the French Government. The Bill provides for the prevention of unjustified increases in prices on the pretext of devaluation. The Government may also cause a revision of the prices of agricultural produce which is subject to taxation.

CENSORSHIP IN AUSTRALIA

Mr. Aldous Huxley's new novel, *Eyeless in Gaza*, has been impounded at Melbourne pending examination by the Book

Censorship Board. In reply to protests in the House of Representatives, Mr. T. M. White, the Minister for Trade and Customs, said that the great majority supported the censorship system. The British system of prosecuting was unworkable, owing to the existence of seven Australian Governments. It was also harsher, with heavy fines and confiscation. Australian importers of prohibited books were given an opportunity to return them, and also to test the ban in the courts. The censors took a broad and tolerant view. Mr. R. G. Casey, the Treasurer, said that he did not find the book sufficiently interesting to finish. The Parliamentary Librarian has called in the two copies in the library so that they may be locked in the safe reserved for banned books.

Thursday 1 October

THE KING

The King returned to London, having travelled from Aberdeen with the Duke and Duchess of Kent and other members of the Royal party in special saloons attached to the ordinary night express. On arrival he drove to Buckingham Palace, where he took breakfast with Queen Mary. Later Queen Mary left Buckingham Palace and took up her residence at Marlborough House, which will be her home.

JAPANESE TALKS WITH CHINA

Mr. Kawagoe, the Japanese Ambassador, is understood to have had further instructions from Japan. The Japanese desire to discuss principles at least with General Chiang Kai-shek in person.

THE RAND AIR RACE

Mr. C. W. A. Scott, with his companion, Mr. Giles Guthrie, won the Rand Air Race. He reached Johannesburg at 11.34 a.m. (British Summer Time), having taken 52 hours 56 minutes for the flight from Portsmouth.

FREE NEWSPAPERS FOR THE NEWLY MARRIED

Newly married couples in Germany receive from the registrar a copy of *Mein Kampf*. In future they will be given also a voucher entitling them to a free daily newspaper for one month. This has been decreed because many people have not acquired the habit of reading newspapers, and learn too late of important orders by the authorities, which brings them into trouble.

1-4 October

MR HUXLEY WINS

Australians will not be prevented from reading Mr. Aldous Huxley's *Eyeless in Gaza*, as the Book Censorship Board have approved it.

Friday 2

GENERAL FRANCO INVESTED

General Franco arrived at Burgos and was solemnly invested with the title of Commander-in-Chief of the insurgent Army and "Chief of the Spanish State." He made a brief speech from a balcony, promising that the newly constituted Government would govern for the people. "Believe me," said he, "the fate of civilisation is being decided in Spain. Man has need of faith—faith in God and a Fatherland."

In Madrid the reign of terror grows worse. On Saturday over 120 people were killed by murder squads.

DEADLOCK IN CHINA

Of the three Chinese accused of the murder of the Japanese bluejackets, two have been sentenced to death. Hongkew is now quieter, and most of the barricades have been removed. The Japanese Press take the line that if China does not comply with the Japanese requirements Japan will have to use force. China is doing all she can to abate anti-Japanese feelings, and it must be the proposals relating to North China that have brought negotiations to a standstill. Presumably there is something in them that the Chinese are reluctant to accept.

Sunday 4

A FASCIST MARCH BANNED

The proposed march of the British Fascists through the streets of East London was prohibited by the police at the last moment. There had been counter-demonstrations in Royal Mint Street. The Fascists shouted, "The Yids! The Yids! We must get rid of the Yids." Spectators retorted, "Go to Germany. Down with Fascism." Police used their batons to clear the streets. The main body of Blackshirts waited at the Tower of London for Sir Oswald Mosley. He drove up in an open motor-car. He then consulted with Sir Philip Game and other high police officials in a side-street and was told that it was impossible for the procession to follow the route planned. So Sir Oswald led his procession towards Blackfriars, accompanied by strong forces of police and led by mounted police. On either side walked spectators who made no audible comment. The

column halted at the Temple station. Sir Oswald drove along the ranks with arm upraised and then drove away to Westminster. The parade broke up without further incident.

SPAIN

Insurgents have again bombed Madrid, when about 100 persons were killed. They declare that the Marxists killed some 500 people before evacuating Toledo. The ninety militia-men of the Government who had taken possession of the Toledo Seminary surrendered and were immediately executed. A number of other Government supporters who had remained in cellars and basements were also forced out of hiding and shot.

CLASHES IN PARIS

More than 15,000 members of the Parti Social Français made counter-demonstrations at a Communist meeting, and about 1,000 demonstrators of the Right had a pitched battle with police, using soda-water siphons, chairs, bottles, and glasses. The trouble arose out of the Government's decision to allow the Communist meeting after a meeting of the Parti Social Français had been banned. The French authorities had taken elaborate precautions. Thousands of police and the Gardes Mobiles established cordons; others waited in lorries to move to scenes of disturbance, and Army reconnaissance aeroplanes equipped with wireless kept the crowd under observation.

Monday 5

SPAIN

General Franco announces that his preparations for the siege of Madrid are now complete and a general offensive is imminent. He has massed 150,000 men, led by 15,000 picked legionaries and Moorish troops.

THE LIRA IN LINE

After a Cabinet meeting lasting just thirty minutes, the Italian Government decided to re-align the lira with the principal currencies of the world. This decision brings the lira to the rate of ninety to the pound, a reduction of almost 41 per cent. According to an official statement, the council unanimously agreed without discussion to the proposal of Signor Mussolini to the devaluation.

THE LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE

The Labour Party Conference approved by a substantial majority the policy of non-intervention in Spain endorsed by

5-6 October

the National Council of Labour. The conference viewed with grave concern the deplorable events of Sunday in the East End of London, condemning the Government's unwillingness to ban the Fascist march.

THE JARROW MARCHERS

Two hundred unemployed men of Jarrow who have been chosen to march to London with a petition to the Government started on their journey. Thousands of people assembled near the Town Hall and along the road, and the marchers were heartily cheered.

Tuesday 6

SPAIN

While the insurgents are preparing to besiege Madrid, the Government supporters have launched a new attack in the siege of Oviedo. They claim that the miners have gained a footing in the town, though the insurgents declare that every attack has so far been beaten off. On Monday over 1,000 shells and 400 aeroplane bombs fell on the town.

THE LABOUR PARTY AND REARMAMENT

The Labour Party Conference carried a resolution that, in view of the threatening attitude of dictatorships, which are increasing their armaments, flouting international law, and refusing to co-operate in the work of organising peace, the armed strength of the countries loyal to the League of Nations must be conditioned by the armed strength of the potential aggressors. Mr. Attlee said there had been suggestions that the resolution committed the Labour Party to support of the rearmament policy of the Government, but it did nothing of the sort. They entirely refused to give the Government a blank cheque.

THE BROTHERTON LIBRARY

In the presence of a distinguished gathering, including the Princess Royal and the Earl of Harewood, the Archbishop of Canterbury declared open the Brotherton Library of the University of Leeds, built at the cost of £120,000 through the generosity of Lord Brotherton. "The Library," said the Archbishop, "will be within easy reach of all departments. It will be, as it were, a central reservoir where the great waters of knowledge are stored, and from which the streams will flow out to laboratory, lecture-room, and study. Surely," he added, "the spectacle of this great storehouse of knowledge will inspire the mind of the humblest student and awaken reverence in his heart."

6-9 October

THE OLD VIC

Wycherley's comedy, *The Country Wife*, is being played at the Old Vic, with Miss Edith Evans as Lady Fidget and Miss Ruth Gordon as Mrs. Margery Pinchwife.

Wednesday 7

SPAIN

Growing uneasiness is felt for the prisoners in the jails of Madrid lest they should become victims of general massacre. Late on Tuesday night thirty aeroplanes flew over Madrid and successfully bombed the railway lines, aerodrome, and military barracks. Leaflets were dropped, warning citizens that if they did not surrender they would be bombed without mercy. The raiders declare that the panic is growing and evacuation has begun.

A REBUFF TO THE COMMUNISTS

The application of the Communist Party for affiliation with the Labour Party was rejected by the Labour Party Conference.

Thursday 8

PARIS

The police raided and searched all the past and present offices of the Parti Social Français (the former Croix de Feu), as well as the homes of Colonel de la Rocque and other prominent leaders. Large quantities of documents were seized. In Colonel de la Rocque's house they discovered, besides more or less illuminating photographs and papers, three life preservers, a revolver, and a German dagger ornamented with the swastika. "I am delighted to tell you," Colonel de la Rocque informed the Press, "that I am the subject of a criminal charge. I already had nine mentions in dispatches. This is the tenth. Nothing, not even death, can check the movement of national resurrection which my friends and I have set afoot."

PALESTINE

A detachment of the Loyal Regiment, with trench-mortars and co-operating aircraft, engaged a band of armed Arabs near Haifa, but without casualties. The strike is crumbling. Shops are shut, but the streets are full of pedlars with vegetables, stockings, and cigarettes.

Friday 9

MEDIATION IN PALESTINE

The Higher Arab Committee has received messages from the four Arab rulers, the Wahabi King, the King of Iraq, the King of the Yemen, and the Emir of Transjordan, appealing that the strike and armed resistance should cease. After a stormy debate

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it has been decided to publish these appeals and pass them on to local committees.

SLUM CLEARANCE

In view of the decline in the birth-rate and the need for a fitter Britain, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Minister of Health have urged the necessity for improvement in housing conditions. The Ministry of Health now publish figures showing the progress of slum clearance in September. Areas comprising 2,710 houses, with displacement of 9,338 persons, have been dealt with. When the campaign was started, it involved the investigations into the conditions of nine million houses out of the total of between eleven and twelve million houses in the country.

MARSHAL DE BONO'S BOOK ON THE ABYSSINIAN WAR

Marshal de Bono, who commanded the Italian forces in Abyssinia at the beginning of the campaign, has published his account of the preparation and first operations. He writes that in 1933 Signor Mussolini privately designated him as the future Commander-in-Chief, and concluded that the solution of the Abyssinian question could not be postponed beyond 1936. In 1934 plans were already being made. From this time onwards General de Bono began to pay attention to improving the road between Massawa and Asmara, and comments on the difficulty of carrying out this and other preparatory works in such a manner that Abyssinian suspicions were not aroused.

Saturday 10

THE KING

It is announced that the King will visit the Special Areas in South Wales next month. The news is received locally with great pleasure—the more so as it was unexpected—and gratification is expressed that he can find time to make another personal visit to this corner of his kingdom.

LARGER ITALIAN ARMAMENTS

Signor Mussolini announced to his Cabinet the extreme urgency of rearmament. He said that the General Commissioner for War Supplies controls 1,500 factories for military purposes. Certain of these are authorised to raise the working week to sixty hours. The personnel of the Navy is to be raised to an average of 60,000 men. The whole military preparation of the nation is being intensified, with the best results. The Press insist that Italy excludes any aggressive plans. Suspicion is spreading that the Spanish situation is viewed in Rome more seriously than is admitted.

Sunday 11

THE HEIMWEHR DISSOLVED

Herr von Schuschnigg, the Chancellor, has dissolved the Heimwehr and all other Austrian armed civilian organisations. The fact that the leaders, Major Fey and Prince Starhemberg, constantly referred their personal quarrels to the Chancellor was disturbing the harmony of the Government. The decision has been received by Prince Starhemberg in a spirit of discipline and self-effacement.

SPAIN

The insurgents are drawing nearer to Madrid. The road from Avila to Toledo appears to be entirely in their hands. There has been bitter fighting in cold, rainy weather. The Red militia is now under Army discipline, and it is hoped that this will lead to greater unity in the field.

Monday 12

PALESTINE

The Arab strike has ended. Arab omnibuses returned to the streets, where only Jewish ones had been seen of late. Down in the bazaar, dealers are sweeping out their booths and arranging their wares. Many of them appear to have lost the key of their shutters, for the locksmith is much in evidence. "Alhamdulilla" ("Praise be to God") is on everybody's lips and everybody is smiling. There are still a few minor acts of lawlessness, such as sniping and the setting of booby-traps on roads.

THE PRIME MINISTER

Mr. Baldwin returned to Downing Street. He has benefited considerably from the rest which he has been able to take since the House of Commons adjourned in July, and his colleagues are as confident as he is that he will be able to throw himself into his work with renewed vigour.

Tuesday 13

NAHAS PASHA'S RETURN

Mustapha Nahas Pasha, the Prime Minister of Egypt, received a strikingly enthusiastic welcome when he landed at Alexandria after signing the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty in London. His reception was organised by students and Blueshirts, who mobbed his car, in spite of the attempts of the police to dislodge them. The route was lined with Blueshirts, who gave the semi-Fascist salute, which they have adopted. Later he held a review of the Wafdist Army, which marched past his hotel for over half an hour.

SPAIN

General Franco's order for a general advance on Madrid, which is expected any day, has been delayed because the insurgent forces are immobilised by heavy rain, which has fallen continuously for forty-eight hours and has made many roads impassable.

WELSH NATIONALISTS CHARGED

Mr. John Saunders Lewis, Lecturer in Welsh Language and Literature in Swansea University, the Rev. Lewis Edward Valentine, and Mr. David John Williams, senior master of Fishguard County School, were tried at the Caernarvon Assizes. They were charged with unlawfully and maliciously damaging buildings, timber, and other articles, the property of the King, to the extent of £2,355, and feloniously and maliciously setting fire to certain buildings, at the aerodrome at Penrhos on the night of September 8. For the prosecution, it was said that the three men had addressed a letter to the Chief Constable of Caernarvon in which they said that ever since the intention to build a Lleyen bombing camp was first announced they and many leaders of public life in Wales did everything they could to persuade the English Government to refrain from placing in Lleyen an institution which would endanger all the culture and traditions of one of the most Welsh regions in Wales. Since the English Government refused even to receive the deputation, in order to compel attention to this immoral violation of the sure and natural rights of the Welsh nation they took this, the only method left to them by a Government which insults the Welsh nation. After the accused had addressed the jury, the judge summed up and said that the act with which they were charged was a protest and a challenge to the British Government and the law of England. "You have heard from the lips of two of the accused the suggestion that the whole of Wales approved of this act. There are many patriotic Welshmen who would shudder at such an act of violence as this. But whether the act has or has not received the approbation of Wales is nothing to do with this court, and if you are satisfied that this was done, then your duty is to find a verdict of 'Guilty'." The jury retired, but after three-quarters of an hour the foreman announced that they could not agree. The case was therefore put off to the next Assizes.

"ROMEO AND JULIET" AS A FILM

The Hollywood version of *Romeo and Juliet* was shown at His Majesty's Theatre. The film has been produced lavishly.

The settings are purely quattrocento and very pretty, with processions, festivals, and dances. The duels and brawls are picturesque and realistic, and quite a considerable portion of Shakespeare's dialogue has been left.

A DRAMATISED VERSION OF "JANE EYRE"

A dramatised version of Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre* was played for the first time at the Queen's Theatre.

Wednesday 14

THE CORONATION BROADCAST

The B.B.C. announces that the King will broadcast a Message to the Empire on Coronation Day, as King George V did at his Jubilee. This will be the King's first act after the Coronation ceremony.

PALESTINE

Now that the strike is ended, conditions in Palestine are almost normal. In the country the peasants are busy in the fields or picking the olive crop. In the towns the shops and markets are open, and there is a general air of business and satisfaction. There appears to be no bad blood between the inhabitants and the soldiers, who meet in friendly rivalry on the football field. Towards the end of the strike villagers showed considerable resentment against the demands made by armed bands. But the deciding factor in controlling these bands was a picket system instituted by Brigadier Evetts, of the 16th Brigade, along the main roads through the central district of the Judæan hills. The Brigadier explained to the *mukhtars* of the villages that he wished to spare them from the importunities of the armed bands and the reprisals by the troops which followed if they assisted those bands. He promised them protection against the bands if they would co-operate in maintaining the pickets. His offer was generally accepted.

THE SPEECH OF KING LEOPOLD OF THE BELGIANS

For the first time since his accession King Leopold presided over a Council of Ministers which was summoned to consider the national defence and reform of the military law. His speech was an important pronouncement on the future of Belgian international policy, and in the evening, at the Prime Minister's request, was made public. In the course of it he said:

"Our military policy, like our foreign policy, which necessarily determines it, must be directed, not to preparing a war, more or less victorious, as the result of a coalition, but to keeping war away from our territory.

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"The reoccupation of the Rhineland, breaking the Locarno agreements in the letter and the spirit, placed us almost in the international position we occupied before the war. Our geographical situation compels us to maintain a military machine big enough to dissuade any one of our neighbours from using our territory for attacking another State. By fulfilling this mission Belgium contributes eminently to the peace of Western Europe, and creates for herself, *ipso facto*, a right to the respect and, if need be, the assistance of all States which are interested in that peace.

"On this basis, I believe, Belgian opinion is unanimous. But our undertakings should not go beyond that. Any unilateral policy weakens our position abroad, and, rightly or wrongly, arouses divisions at home. Even a purely defensive alliance would not lead to the desired end, for, however prompt the assistance of an ally might be, he could not intervene until after the invader's attack, which would be a lightning attack, had been launched. In resisting that attack we should be alone in any case. Unless she herself had a system of defence capable of resisting it, Belgium would find herself from the outset deeply invaded and immediately plundered. This stage past, friendly intervention might, it is true, bring final victory, but the struggle would cover the country with ravages of which those of the Great War afford only a pale reflection.

"That is why, as the Minister of Foreign Affairs recently said, we must follow a policy exclusively and entirely Belgian. That policy should aim resolutely at placing us outside any disputes of our neighbours. It responds to our national idea."

ORDERLY FASCIST MEETINGS

Sir Oswald Mosley addressed orderly Fascist meetings at Bethnal Green and Limehouse. The Fascists marched with pipes, drums, and flags, but there was no interference. Enormous bodies of police, mounted and on foot, were on duty, with reserves down side-streets. Sir Oswald spoke from the top of a motor-van illuminated by a spotlight, and his audience appeared sympathetic. There was one minor disturbance in Bow, as a result of which two men were charged with using insulting words and behaviour.

Thursday 15

A CRITIC IN THE PILLORY

Herr Julius Streicher, the political leader for Franconia, has given the German Press a lesson in good manners. A young journalist wrote a highly critical account of a cabaret show, and

particularly of the announcer. Hereupon Herr Streicher invited representatives of the State and City, and the whole Nuremberg Press to see the show, without a hint of what was to follow. In the interval, he led the young journalist on to the stage. Then having made some appreciative remarks about the artists and their performance, Herr Streicher left the critic to read out his remarks. Afterwards Herr Streicher told the Press that artists had to earn their daily bread and were not fair game for critics neither old enough nor experienced enough to sit in judgment on men of maturer years who had served in the war with distinction.

LORD NUFFIELD'S GIFT TO OXFORD

Lord Nuffield has offered to the University of Oxford Trust sums amounting to approximately £1,250,000 for the development of a post-graduate medical school, with a staff of full-time professors.

BOMBAY RIOTS

Thirteen persons were killed and 134 injured in communal rioting when the building of the new Assembly Hall of the Maruti Temple was begun. In Moslem localities individual Hindus were stabbed and tramcars stoned. The police surrounded the mosque and seized a number of bamboo sticks, soda-water bottles, stones, and persons. When the Bombay Municipality undertook to build the hall some years ago, objection was raised by the authorities of the adjoining mosque on the ground that the hall was likely to be used for music.

A BARREN YEAR FOR POETS

The committee appointed to recommend names for the award of the King's Medal for Poetry cannot find any poet to recommend for this year. The medal will therefore not be awarded.

Friday 16

GRIM DAYS IN MADRID

The enemy is closing in on Madrid, particularly on the west. Madrid has given up pretending to be happy and is preparing without complaint and with silent dignity for the ordeal that is plainly approaching. Places of entertainment close early. No food or drink is to be had after 10 p.m. Gas for cooking and heating has been cut off all night and for some hours in the afternoon, and at 10 p.m. the city is plunged in darkness. House-to-house searches are then held for suspects. Nobody unprovided with a permit may be abroad, and houses are locked up. An official estimate issued a few months ago gave

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the total of prisoners at 6,000, but since then arrests have steadily continued. They are a source of anxiety to the Government.

THE AMERICAN ELECTIONS

The electoral campaign in America has entered upon its final stage. Mr. Roosevelt's victory depends on whether the Republicans can in two weeks frighten enough voters away from the New Deal to turn the tide which is carrying him to victory. Mr. Landon is about to embark on a final tour of California, the Middle West, Pennsylvania, and New York in a bid for victory.

MISS JEAN BATTEN'S FLIGHT TO NEW ZEALAND

Miss Jean Batten landed at Mangere aerodrome, Auckland, at 5.6 p.m., having flown from England in 11 days 56 minutes. She has completed the first direct flight from England to New Zealand and is the first woman to fly across the Tasman Sea.

Saturday 17

SPAIN

Colonel Pablo Martin Alonso entered Oviedo at 3 o'clock this afternoon and relieved Colonel Aranda, who, with only 600 regulars, had been resisting the Asturian miners for nearly three months. The news was received with wild enthusiasm throughout Nationalist Spain. It is looked upon as "yet another glorious page in Spanish history."

M. KOMISARJEVSKY'S "ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA"

On Wednesday night, *Antony and Cleopatra*, produced by M. Komisarjevsky, was presented at the New Theatre, but the critics expressed their dislike so pungently that it ran only for four nights. The part of Cleopatra was taken by Mme Eugenie Leontovich, a Russian actress, who found considerable difficulty in the English of Shakespeare's verse and with her costumes. The production also displeased *The Times* critic, who wrote: "M. Komisarjevsky, doubtless in his pursuit of a 'synthetic' theatre, has decided to treat *Antony and Cleopatra* as if it were a cross between a ballet, an operetta, and a revue at the Folies Bergères. The dresses have little to recommend them but a tinsel splendour. The set is so designed that, during the opening of the monument scene, none of the players is visible from the advanced stalls. The order of the scenes has been changed—for example, Charmian and Iras open the play, presumably on the music-hall principle that the house must be "warmed" for

the star's entrance. One receives the impression that, in M. Komisarjevsky's view, nothing is so important as his lighting operations. The stage pales and darkens, smiles and gleams, glows and flashes so often and so restlessly that the whole emphasis is on the electrician. Seldom has a play been so tormented and twisted and stifled or a work of genius been so casually scorned."

THE NAZI FOUR-YEAR PLAN

Herr Hitler signed a decree placing the execution of the Nuremberg Four-Year Plan of raw material self-sufficiency in the hands of General Göring. It is felt that, with General Göring in control, the development of the plan will still be along the lines advised by Dr. Schacht, while General Göring will see to it that the National Labour Front neither obstructs nor criticises.

Sunday 18

SPAIN

The insurgents are now almost in touch with the field fortifications prepared for the defence of Madrid, where the Government forces have their backs to the wall. The advance along the Tagus has shown the superior organisation and leadership of the insurgents.

Monday 19

SPAIN

Fighting continues west of Madrid. A supreme effort is being made to rouse the fighting spirit of the defenders, who are exhorted in the official news sheet to emulate the defenders of Paris in 1914. Thousands of militia in the churches, barracks, convents, and palaces are urged to sally forth. "Rifles to the front" is the watchword. A campaign against women suspected of Right Wing tendencies has begun; nearly a thousand were imprisoned in two expropriated houses, whilst husbands and sons shouted to them from the street. The mobilisation of all males between eighteen and forty is ordered at Barcelona.

GERMANY AND ITALY

Count Ciano is to have three days' consultation with Baron von Neurath. Foreign opinion is assured that the conversations are inspired by peaceful ideals, though it is admitted that the two countries find a natural basic affinity in their political régimes, and there is a convergence of interests and a parallel between their outlooks upon many fundamental European problems.

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ANOTHER GIFT FROM LORD NUFFIELD

Lord Nuffield has presented £30,000 to the Acland Nursing Home at Oxford to enable it to enlarge its accommodation and to instal the expensive equipment necessary for the efficiency of such an institution.

"LA KERMESSE HÉROÏQUE"

La Kermesse Héroïque, a French film directed by M. Jacques Feyder, is showing in London. It is a frivolous story of the time of the Spanish occupation of Holland, perfectly produced, with many reminiscences of the Flemish and Dutch Masters' landscapes, interiors, furniture, and clothes: the feasting and dancing scenes are pure Breughel come to life.

A PRISONER WHO KNEW BETTER

At the Dorset Assizes a jury was empanelled to return a verdict of "Previously Convicted." The prisoner had been committed for trial by the Shaftesbury magistrates after he had pleaded guilty on a case of housebreaking. When first brought before the magistrates, they accepted jurisdiction and took his plea, but when he said he wanted to be dealt with summarily they replied that, since he was a man of many convictions, he ought to be sentenced by a Judge of Assize. This, however, was contrary to previous decisions. When the prisoner was informed that he would be sent to the Assizes he told the court, "You can't do that." The judge instructed the jury to return a verdict of "Previously Convicted," and the prisoner was released.

A BISHOP REBUKED

Mr. Duff Cooper, the Secretary for War, sternly criticised recent remarks by the Bishop of Birmingham delivered at Oxford University, in which he had suggested the handing over of the Crown Colonies to the League of Nations. Mr. Duff Cooper said that he thought the bishop could have found sufficient causes of a religious nature to preach about in the pulpit without entering into politics and stating views that would have disgraced a street-corner orator. It was remarkable that such a distinguished clergyman could make such a ludicrous suggestion in a pulpit to an educated audience who must have been laughing at him while he was preaching.

Tuesday 20

THE DEFENCE OF MADRID

An uncensored dispatch in *The Times* describes preparations being made for the defence of Madrid. The People's Army

numbers about 100,000, mostly raw militia. They are so untrained that it is doubtful whether they can be moved expeditiously without causing congestion and confusion. They are better fitted for a fight within houses and behind walls: but this would mean the destruction rather than the defence of Madrid. The regiments have picturesque names—Red Lions, Red Bullets—but up to now they have paid too little attention to organisation and too much to getting up concerts, exhibitions, and *fiestas* for the development of a political conscience. In the field they are far inferior to the insurgents in their aircraft, guns, tanks, and telephones. The insurgents are employing Moorish troops. They and the Navarrese volunteers are said to be the best fighters. Moorish cavalry go into action against infantry armed with rifles.

THE BELGIAN MOTIVE

The general feeling in Belgium is that at this moment, when a new Locarno Covenant is about to be made, European antagonisms are more bitter than ever. The fate of Abyssinia, Belgium considers, is a lesson to all small States. No treaty will avail if the national defences are not strong enough to deter a potential aggressor. The many alliances concluded by France lately, notably the Franco-Soviet Pact, aroused the fear that by identifying herself too closely with France Belgium would be embroiled in a war that did not concern her. Indeed, anti-French feeling almost caused a national crisis. King Leopold took the initiative and made an appeal for national unity. The Cabinet were so impressed that they published the speech entire, without first, in ordinary diplomatic usage, informing the diplomatic representatives of the countries most closely concerned. There is, however, no repudiation of present commitments. The suggestion that Belgium is following Germany in unilaterally denouncing pacts causes profound irritation.

GERMAN ARMY STRENGTH

With the enrolment of the new recruits this month the final stage is entered of the military programme laid down in 1935. It appears that the thirty-six-division total then fixed is being expanded. The impression has been confirmed that the Army Law might be interpreted as meaning thirty-six infantry divisions plus an indefinite number of armoured divisions.

TENSION IN THE EAST END

A deputation from the London Labour Party was received by Sir John Simon to discuss the disorders resulting from

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Fascist marches in the East End. The deputation urged on the Government the gravity of the situation, and the risk of its becoming worse unless immediate steps are taken to apply remedial measures. The Home Secretary thanked the deputation for coming, and assured them that the Government are giving immediate and careful consideration to the difficult problems involved.

Wednesday 21

THE BATTLE FOR MADRID

After a preliminary bombardment, the insurgents launched a general attack on the defences of Madrid this afternoon. The bombardment opened at dawn, and continued till 1 p.m., when the attack began. The insurgents claim to have driven back five battalions of Government militia. General Franco, it is reported, is already planning the campaign which must follow the capture of Madrid.

MASSACRE IN CARTAGENA

News reaches London that all the prisoners held by the Government forces at Cartagena have been summarily shot as a reprisal for the insurgent air attacks on Tuesday morning.

Thursday 22

SPAIN

General Franco's men at one point are within ten miles of Madrid. The Government have decided to transfer their headquarters to Barcelona, but this does not mean that Madrid will be given up without a bitter struggle. Some thousands, mostly youths, are feverishly digging trenches and preparing defensive positions. South of Navacarnero the insurgents seem to have been slowed down by a desperate counter-attack astride the main Madrid-Toledo road.

TENSION IN BELGIUM

The Rexist meeting arranged for Sunday has been banned, and the National Railway Company are instructed to cancel the sixty-one special trains from all parts of the country which were to have brought Rexist supporters to Brussels. M. van Zeeland in a broadcast message gave reasons for the Government's action. He said that in view of the tension and anxiety created by a long campaign of exaggerations and lies it would not be possible to maintain order in any part of the kingdom at a gathering of 250,000 persons except at the risk of violence and perhaps even the shedding of blood. He appealed to all men of good sense, saying that the Government were fully armed against all attempts at commotion or Communist

violence, but the methods which some people want to use in their struggle against Communism are among the most ineffective and dangerous there are.

Ministers realise that the way to combat the Fascist tendencies of the Rexist movement lies not in repression, but in bettering the lot of the middle classes. At yesterday's Cabinet meeting it was decided to introduce at once a Bill prohibiting the opening of new departmental stores or one-price shops until such time as the Chamber has had an opportunity to consider the whole question of retail distribution. The growth of multiple trading has borne heavily on the small shopkeeper.

LORD NUFFIELD AND THE AIR MINISTRY

There has been some disagreement between the Air Ministry and Lord Nuffield resulting in his decision to close down the Wolseley Aero-Engine Works and not to allow Wolseley Motors Limited to take a share in the shadow industry for making aero-engine parts to be assembled at a central factory.

THE "GIRL PAT"

After four days' trial, George Black Orsborne and his brother James Black Orsborne were found guilty of conspiring together and with other persons unknown to steal the motor-vessel the *Gil Pat*. George Orsborne was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment with hard labour, and James Orsborne to twelve months. During the trial it was stated that the elder Orsborne had accepted an offer of £5,000 for the rights of his story.

MR. CHURCHILL'S "MARLBOROUGH"

Mr. Winston Churchill has now produced the third volume of his *Life of the great Earl of Marlborough*, which covers the period from the autumn of 1705 to the close of 1708.

MORE RUSSIAN "PRESENTS" FOR SPAIN

Moscow announces that the steamship *Turksib* left Leningrad laden with foodstuffs for Spain. This is the fifth cargo purchased and sent as a present by the Aid to Spain Fund, for which a proportion of wages and salaries is being contributed all over Russia. According to the Soviet Press, regular cargoes will continue until "final, complete victory."

Friday 23

ARMS FOR SPAIN

The Non-Intervention Committee met this morning, but during the lunch-hour the Soviet Government sent to the

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chairman a declaration so ambiguous that it has been referred to the chairman's sub-committee in order that M. Maisky may "elucidate certain aspects of his statement." It stated that the non-intervention agreement had turned out to be an empty, torn scrap of paper, and that the Soviet Government sees only one way out—to give back to the Spanish Government the facilities to purchase arms outside Spain. In any case, the Soviet Government is compelled to declare that it cannot consider itself bound by the Agreement for Non-Intervention to any greater extent than any of the remaining participants.

Count Grandi immediately retorted that, though he had listened with great attention, he was quite unable to make head or tail of it. M. Maisky replied that it was perfectly plain, and he had nothing to add. The committee found itself more in agreement with Signor Grandi. The statement apparently means that Russia will break the agreement *pari passu* with the breaches of others, reserving the right to withdraw later. There is little doubt that the whole declaration is an elaborate piece of face-saving. Moscow has prudently shrunk from destroying non-intervention, and thus estranging herself from the Western democracies, but has disguised this change in policy for the Russian public.

AN EPSTEIN SCULPTURE DISFIGURED

Mr. Epstein's sculpture "Day," over the London Transport Board's headquarters in Westminster, was disfigured with a mixture of tar, petrol, and carbolic acid. When soap and water were applied to fetch it off the figure turned bright blue. Later the swastika design was found painted on the foundation-stone of the building with the same mixture.

Sunday 25

GERMANY AND ITALY

The outstanding results of Count Ciano's visit to Germany are the German recognition of the Italian Empire of Ethiopia and the formal description of the Spanish insurgent Government in terms that can be translated into a full recognition at a chosen moment. Germany's attitude of "correct neutrality" in the Abyssinian War is contrasted with the attitude of the League of Nations, which is said only to have prolonged the struggle by encouraging Abyssinian resistance. Care is taken to point out that the statement about Spain does not recognise General Franco's National Government, but only the conviction of the two countries that he has found support in a large part of Spain and is accomplishing a praiseworthy work.

A BELGIAN CRISIS AVERTED

Thanks to the equanimity of the Belgian citizens and the painstaking arrangements of authorities, the Rexist threat to "descend upon Brussels" was averted. The leader of the party and his two lieutenants were arrested for attempting to address a prohibited meeting. Tramway services had been suspended, and all vehicles seeking to enter the capital were checked. The post office and the wireless stations were guarded by armed gendarmes.

The ex-Service men marched past the King as usual. Here and there a Rexist raised his hand in the Fascist salute, but his cries of "Vive Degrelle" were drowned by cries of "Vive le Roi." As soon as the ceremony was over, large crowds gathered at the Place Ste. Gudule. Promptly at noon a whistle blew and Rexists surged into the square. All wore the party badge in their buttonholes, and many wore the party armlet also. When M. Degrelle appeared in the window of an art-dealer's shop, frantic cheering greeted him. Some Rexists shouted "Hosannah"; others cried "Resign." Some sang the "Brabançonne"; others "Vers l'Avenir." Flemish Nationalists did their best with the "Vlaamische Leeuw." M. Degrelle had a loud-speaker, but his voice was drowned in the enthusiasm. Police and gendarmes rushed into the square and with sabres drawn charged the crowd. Their task was not made easier by the presence of anti-Fascists, who shouted "Rex à Berlin" and seized a Rexist banner, which they tore to pieces. M. Degrelle himself in the meantime remained at his window, clapping his hands and shouting "Vivent les gendarmes." He was arrested as he came out of the building.

Monday 26

SPAIN

Local prophets foretell the fall of Madrid in between three and ten days. General Monasterio's column of cavalry, tanks, and artillery has occupied both banks of the River Jarama, thus cutting off communication between Madrid and Aranjuez, and protecting the insurgent right flank. There is a remarkable absence of Government aircraft. This may be held in reserve for an emergency evacuation, or it may be that the airmen are disinclined to receive the reward of some of their comrades who were shot for mistaken bombing of their own positions some days past.

AN ARAB LEADER RETIRES

Fawzi Kawakji, the picturesque "Commander-in-Chief of the Army of Southern Syria" who led the Arab bands in the

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recent disturbances, has escaped from Palestine into Trans-jordan territory. This is a source of gratification to both Government and Arabs. The Government are relieved because, while it was imperative to rid the country of a foreign agitator, his capture would have been embarrassing; the Arabs because he has apparently concluded his spectacular career with honour and without surrender.

DANZIG WITHOUT HERR GREISER

Herr Greiser, President of the Senate in Danzig, is leaving for a long holiday owing to ill health. It is said in Berlin that he will not return and that his illness will last until a suitable successor has been found.

AN OFFICIAL SECRETS CASE

Charges under the Official Secrets Act were heard *in camera* against a draftsman named Eric Joseph Gardner Camp at the Central Criminal Court. He was charged with having, for purposes prejudicial to the safety or interest of the State, made a note calculated to be, or that might be, directly or indirectly useful to an enemy—a note of the performance figures of certain aircraft; with having between the same dates and for the same purposes recorded certain information useful to an enemy—relating to the performance figures of a certain aircraft; and with having in his possession a note which related to the performance figures of a certain aircraft in a prohibited place, which had been obtained owing to his position, and retaining that note in his possession and control when he had no right to do so. He was found “Not Guilty” on the first two counts, but “Guilty” on the third count. The judge took the unusual step of binding him over for two years to be of good behaviour and to report each month to Detective-Inspector Cooper, to let him know where he is working and what he is doing.

A. E. HOUSMAN'S POEMS

A number of new poems by A. E. Housman have been published, some of which are even more bitter than those in *A Shropshire Lad*, and others as beautiful as anything he ever wrote.

A LONG LAWSUIT

A lawsuit between two villages near Lyons, Beaufort and Les Chapelles, over the possession of Mont Treicel, a hill in the neighbourhood, has been settled by arbitration. The lawsuit began in 1603.

Tuesday 27

SPAIN

With the enemy prowling around and above, Madrid continues to make feverish if belated preparations for defence. Trade unions are mobilising their members. White-faced hairdressers, pastrycooks, bakers, and decorators are springing up beside the sun-tanned builders in iron, cement, and stone. University students are forming "sporting" battalions of footballers and skiers. These are to form reserves and are implored or admonished to stand fast. Printed notices of instructions on bearing in the field, vehement harangues from loudspeakers, posters, meetings, propaganda films, the tireless appeal of the shoal of wireless stations that have sprung up—nothing has been neglected to raise the spirit of the defenders of the proletariat. Easy-going, hitherto incorrigibly romantic, yet prosaic Madrid is now cornered by fate and called upon to make herself worthy of being the capital of a rising Socialist State. The Soviet Ambassador says it is now for Madrid to emulate St. Petersburg, though not necessarily to change its name.

DEATHS FROM GALES

The gale which swept the country on Monday increased in severity, especially in Scotland and Northern Ireland, delaying shipping and causing widespread damage. Between midnight and dawn in London the wind tore branches off trees, strewn the streets with carpets of leaves, and blew down hoardings. In Sheffield snow fell on the hills, a violent thunderstorm broke out, and a high wind broke several shop-windows. The *Helena Faulbaums*, of Riga, was wrecked off the coast of Scotland. Four of the crew of eighteen were saved. Five bodies were washed ashore at Oban, but it is feared that the remainder of the crew are lost.

MRS. WALLIS SIMPSON'S DIVORCE SUIT

Mrs. Wallis Simpson, known to be a close friend of the King, and one who accompanied his party during his summer cruise, successfully sued for divorce in an undefended suit at Ipswich Assizes. The case is barely mentioned in the English Press, but in America comment is intensified, and it is openly said that the King proposes to marry her when the divorce becomes absolute.

THE KEELUNG INCIDENT

For the last three weeks there have been communications passing between the British and Japanese Governments about

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an incident that occurred at Keelung, Formosa. The trouble arose because three British sailors were accused of not paying a taxi-fare. As a result they were taken to the police station, where they received injuries, one of them having his jaw broken. The British naval officer who went to their help was insulted by the Japanese police.

Wednesday 28

THE BANK BESMIRCHED WITH PAINT

In the early hours of the morning the new Tivoli corner of the Bank of England was smeared with a sticky paint and on it a crudely-drawn swastika. This is the third case this week, for, in addition to the figure of "Day" over the London Transport headquarters, "Rima" in Hyde Park was once more disfigured.

THE STATUE OF LIBERTY

The Statue of Liberty, well known to everyone who visits New York, was to-day rededicated on the fiftieth anniversary of its original unveiling. The statue was originally presented to the United States by the French people in commemoration of the centenary of American independence.

GERMANY AND RAW MATERIALS

In the Sportpalast, before a great gathering, General Göring addressed an impassioned appeal to the entire German nation to collaborate with him in his new task of supervising the Four-Year Plan of self-sufficiency in raw materials. His speech relied largely for its effect on the picture of a hostile, callous, uncomprehending, and chaotic world hemming in an ill-used, orderly, hard-working Germany. Great Britain came in for special condemnation for clinging to Germany's "stolen" colonies. "We possess no colonies," he said. "They were stolen from us in an unfortunate war. We are told to buy raw materials with gold. We would be ready to do so if all our gold had not been stolen from us." He poured scorn on those who sought to pile their tables with out-of-season delicacies out of snobbery, and raised a laugh by suggesting that there were some people who, if told that straw hats were scarce in winter, would rush off to try to buy one. There must be peace in the works, and no petty denunciations. They would make their own rubber and their own clothes. Nothing was impossible. National-Socialist government had proved that. Germany does not capitulate.

THE DEATH OF SIR EDGAR BRITTEN

Commodore Sir Edgar Britten, first captain of the *Queen Mary*, had a fatal stroke in his cabin when about to get up at

7 a.m. this morning, two hours before the liner was due to leave Southampton for New York. He was sixty-two years of age.

Thursday 29

PARLIAMENT

To-day Sir Philip Sassoon wound up the Nuffield-Swinton controversy. Lord Nuffield, he said, did not withdraw his criticism of the shadow scheme, but had placed his services at the disposal of the Government for any other purposes. The Government, for their part, regretted Lord Nuffield's disagreement with the shadow scheme policy, but repeated that it had been adopted on the advice of the experienced firms who were making aero-engines. The House warmly approved this pool of *amendes honorables*.

Mr. Eden defended the London Committee and its agreement, though imperfect. Without it a European war would have been on the cards. We had not surplus arms to send. If tension had increased, France would have had none. Russia, Germany, and Italy would have sent, but the insurgents would have got most.

Mr. Baldwin noted the rapid and remarkable change in Opposition views about Spain. He himself stood where the Opposition stood at Edinburgh. Passing to the great movements abroad in Europe, Mr. Baldwin said that Communism was a creed which brooked no fact in which it did not believe. It had bred Fascism—another creed of force. We must take good care that neither creed took root. Meanwhile he had fought for one thing only—the keeping of peace.

THE EXPANSION OF THE R.A.F.

A White Paper is issued entitled "Note on the Policy of His Majesty's Government in relation to the production of aero-engines." The note details the factors which governed the policy of the Air Ministry for the supply of aero-engines for service purposes before the formulation of the shadow scheme, and then describes in detail the relations between Lord Nuffield and the Air Ministry, first concerning the 1935 expansion programme, and secondly the scheme for a shadow industry. At a meeting with Lord Swinton and Lord Weir, Lord Nuffield had expressed anxiety at the unpreparedness of the arrangements for the supply of aero-engines. It was made clear to him that the real customer for the military aero-engine was the aeroplane manufacturer, and an engine market could not be guaranteed by the Air Ministry.

THE ABYSSINIAN CAMPAIGN

Marshal Badoglio has published a book on the Abyssinian campaign, *La Guerra d'Étiopia*. It sets down the facts with bluntness and clarity. He admits that the possibility of conflict was studied as far back as 1925, but insists that it was not until 1934 that defensive measures were really begun to ensure the safety of Eritrea, and that only on the Walwal incident was it fully realised that Italo-Abyssinian differences must sooner or later be resolved on the field of battle. It was Signor Mussolini himself who speeded up the preparations. Marshal Badoglio holds that the Italian soldiers proved themselves second to none, and that with these soldiers Italy can dare everything.

CABINET CHANGES

Mr. Walter Elliot has been appointed Secretary of State for Scotland to succeed the late Sir Godfrey Collins, and Mr. W. S. Morrison now becomes Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

A COUP D'ÉTAT IN IRAQ

Early this morning news was received that troops of the Iraqi Army were marching on Baghdad. Then a squadron of aeroplanes dropped pamphlets containing a manifesto issued by General Bakir Sidqi, demanding the dismissal of the Cabinet. This was followed by another flight of aeroplanes, which dropped four warning bombs. One dropped near the Houses of Parliament, another near the Cabinet building. There was general excitement and a hasty exodus of Government officials from the vicinity of the city. Two hours later it was announced that the Cabinet had resigned. The Army's march on the city was halted, and during the remainder of the afternoon Seyyid Hikmat Sulaiman was engaged in the formation of a new Cabinet.

Friday 30

BOMBS ON MADRID

Air-raids on Madrid caused many casualties. At least 55 persons were killed and 160 wounded. Some of them were standing in food queues when the bombs fell. It is reported from the French frontier that insurgent warships are landing troops in north-eastern Catalonia. The Madrid Government claim that their counter-attacks south of the city on Thursday resulted in an advance, which is continuing. The insurgents report the complete repulse, with heavy loss, of all attacks.

THE KEELUNG INCIDENT

The Japanese Foreign Office spokesman has broadcast the police version of the Keelung incident. He explained that he did so because the British Press had been attacking the Japanese police. According to him, the dispute occurred over a taxi-cab fare. He alleged that three British naval ratings who had taken a taxi-cab were so drunk that the police could not understand them, and took them to the police station to sober up. He denied that they were beaten. The British Ambassador states that this version is quite at variance with the facts reported to the British authorities, but declines to disclose the facts because the affair is being re-examined. Reports in non-British quarters declare that the seamen were sitting in a café when the police appeared and said that they had not paid the taxi-driver. The seamen went to the police station to make their statements and were severely beaten. When they were released, one man had a broken jaw.

FASTEST FLIGHT ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

Mr. James Mollison completed the fastest flight across the Atlantic in an American aeroplane which two years ago had to be withdrawn from the race to Australia and subsequently had to abandon the project to make a fast flight over the same route. With the help of favourable winds the easterly crossing was made in 13 hours 17 minutes.

M. SALENGRO

Some weeks ago the Paris newspaper *Gringoire* started a campaign against M. Salengro, Minister of the Interior, alleging that he was sentenced to death by default as a deserter during the war. M. Salengro replied that he was taken prisoner while trying to rescue a wounded comrade between the lines, and, having disappeared, was automatically tried in his absence and sentenced for presumed desertion, but in fact, far from suffering sentence from the French, he was imprisoned by the Germans for refusing to work in one of their munition factories. M. Blum, at the request of M. Salengro, has asked M. Daladier, Minister of War, to hand over the record of the case to General Gamelin, Chief of the General Staff, so that it may be examined with the assistance of representatives of the National Federation of Ex-soldiers and other ex-soldiers' associations. The committee has now met and reported that the charges of the *Gringoire* are baseless.

30 October-1 November

THE NEW GERMAN AMBASSADOR

Herr von Ribbentrop was received by the King at Buckingham Palace, and presented his Letters of Credence as the new German Ambassador at the Court of St. James's.

THE DEATH OF CAPTAIN HARRY GRAHAM

Captain Harry Graham, one of the best known of our modern wits, has died at the age of sixty-one. He was author of *Ruthless Rhymes for Heartless Homes* and many other witty and satirical pieces. He also wrote recently the song "All the King's Horses" as a robust retort to the pulings of crooners.

Sunday 1 November

THE ITALIAN RÔLE IN EUROPE

Signor Mussolini addressed an immense meeting in the Cathedral Square at Milan. His speech was a forcible and passionate harangue in which he confirmed the Fascist attitude to the problems of this "troubled and anxious moment." In a passage on the Mediterranean, he said that there could be no other solution than an Anglo-Italian understanding based on reciprocal interests. A notable point was the complete absence of any reference to Spanish affairs. He made a truculent onslaught on the League of Nations, and said that it was necessary to make a clean sweep of all the illusions, all the commonplaces, all the falsehoods which still constitute the relics of the great shipwreck of the Wilsonian ideology. One illusion was disarmament. Nobody wants to be the first to disarm, and it is impossible and absurd to suppose that all can disarm together. He declared that the understanding between Germany and Italy was an axis around which all the European States who want peace may co-operate.

THE COUP D'ÉTAT IN IRAQ

Further news from Iraq reports that General Jafar el Askari, the Minister of Defence in the old Iraqi Cabinet, was shot and killed by an officer on Thursday evening while on his way to confer with General Bakir Sidqi. After the resignation of the Cabinet the King charged General Jafar el Askari to take a message to General Bakir Sidqi, who was conducting manoeuvres with his division to the north-east of Baghdad. He got in touch with General Bakir Sidqi by telephone and wireless and informed him of his mission. General Bakir Sidqi said that he would send an officer to meet him. The Minister left Baghdad by car. About ten miles from the city he was met by one of

General Bakir Sidqi's officers, who asked him to take a place in his car, which besides the officer held three soldiers. This car drove off, and soon afterwards left the road and went about 200 yards into the desert. Here General Jafar el Askari was dispatched with a revolver. It is believed that General Bakir Sidqi was waiting a little further along the road, and that the officer was a fanatical individual who had distinguished himself by his ferocity in the slaughter of disarmed Assyrians in 1933.

THE JARROW MARCHERS IN LONDON

Of the 200 marchers who left Jarrow a month ago, 197 reached London yesterday, completing the last stage from Hendon in heavy rain. They were given a hot meal at a soup kitchen in Garrick Street, and later went to the Smith Street Institution in the Mile End Road. Their leader spoke warmly of the sympathy with which the men had been received throughout their journey of three hundred miles, saying, "I never thought there was so much generosity and good nature in the world." To-day the men went to Hyde Park and listened to speeches, among them one from Miss Ellen Wilkinson. Arrangements have been made for the men to return home by special train.

Monday 2 THE EFFECT OF SIGNOR MUSSOLINI'S SPEECH

The importance of an Anglo-Italian understanding in the Mediterranean continues to be the main theme of Italian political thinkers, but some tactlessness is being displayed in the approaches to the realisation of this goal. There is a tendency to declare that the only alternatives are a "frank peace or an inevitable war." No faith is placed in the assurances of the British Press that in London there is no thought of attacking Italy. Italy is apparently considered as fully justified in arming to the teeth. It remains hard to understand what action is expected from Great Britain beyond recognition of the Italian Empire in Abyssinia, which would hardly clear up all misunderstandings. No pains were spared to impress upon Count Ciano in Berlin the reality of Germany's desire for good relations with Great Britain, and that Germany would like to draw Italy and Great Britain closer together as a step towards bringing France into line.

SPAIN

The advance posts of the insurgents are within ten miles of Madrid. Heavy Government losses are reported. The

Tuesday 3

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT

The State Procession to Westminster for the opening of Parliament was cancelled because of the weather. Rain fell steadily during the morning, and the King, instead of driving from Buckingham Palace in the gilded coach with the Sovereign's Escort of Life Guards, went in a closed motor-car.

Shortly after the entry of the Peers and the Royal Dukes the lights in the chamber were lowered. In the dimness the throne remained brilliantly lit from lights concealed above the Royal arms on the canopy. The heralds arrived. The assembly rose and the lights again lit up the brilliant scene. The King stepped to the throne and signed the declaration of the Protestant faith. He placed on his head the cocked hat, and received from the Lord Privy Seal the Most Gracious Speech to Both Houses of Parliament. The familiar opening phrase, "My relations with foreign Powers continue to be friendly," came from a familiar voice, though its clear tones were strangely younger than any which had been heard from the throne in recent years. The other familiar phrase, "I pray that the blessing of Almighty God may rest upon your deliberations," came from a voice that by its younger tones called for the prayers of the people where his father's had led those prayers. After the speech the King removed his hat, stepped from the throne, and the Royal procession re-formed. Not alone the fact that his was a throne by itself, but his whole Royal demeanour, bade one feel that "in himself was all his State."

For the first time a woman moved the loyal address in reply. Miss Horsbrugh, wearing an evening dress of brown velvet, was cordially cheered when she rose to perform a task which was making history, and fully deserved the cheers and congratulations she received.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT RE-ELECTED

President Roosevelt has been re-elected. He will carry 41 States, having 470 electoral votes, and Mr. Landon at most 7 States, with 61 votes. It is estimated that 45,000,000 people voted.

SPAIN

There was again local fighting near Madrid. Government forces, supported by numerous tanks, attacked and gained some of the ground lost. In the afternoon insurgent artillery bombed the city heavily.

3-4 November

NAZI REFERENCES TO BRITAIN

Sir Eric Phipps, British Ambassador in Berlin, called at the German Foreign Office to draw the friendly attention of the German Government to the recent speeches of General Göring and Dr. Goebbels. He was instructed to represent that the British Government could not accept the apparent implication in those speeches that any hardships suffered by the German people might in some way be attributed to the workings of British policy.

THE TALE OF AN EGG

At Greenwich police court an egg was the subject of a long debate between the prosecuting solicitor and the magistrate. A shopkeeper was summoned for serving an egg after 8 p.m. He was entitled to serve cooked meat at that hour, but the solicitor claimed that an egg, even a cooked egg, was not cooked meat. In the end the magistrate was convinced, and fined the offending shopkeeper two shillings.

Wednesday 4

MR. ROOSEVELT RE-ELECTED

Mr. Roosevelt has been returned as President of the United States for the second time by the most decisive triumph in the history of American elections. In the electoral college he commands 523 out of 531 votes, leaving Mr. Landon 8. As soon as he learnt that there was no hope of winning, Governor Landon telegraphed to Mr. Roosevelt: "The nation has spoken. Every American will accept the verdict and will work for the common cause and the good of the country. That is the spirit of democracy. You have my sincere congratulations." To which Mr. Roosevelt replied: "All of us Americans will now pull together for the common good." These messages have so impressed the Brazilian Chamber that they are to be inscribed on the records as an example to be followed by all peoples faithful to democracy.

MADRID

The insurgents captured the aerodrome of Getafe, and General Varela, commander of the insurgent forces in this sector, declares that the city will fall this week. Meanwhile in Madrid fortifications are being prepared in the city streets, where women and children help to build the barricades. The insurgents have the supremacy in the air and in artillery. Much of the latter is Italian, as is shown by the deposition of an Italian prisoner, who states that he belonged to the Garrison Artillery of Rome. He was one of fifty soldiers picked for

service in Spain without being asked whether they wished to volunteer. They sailed from Genoa, and disembarked at Vigo with fifteen guns and plentiful ammunition. He avers that the gun teams, including officers, are Italian.

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF G. K. CHESTERTON

The autobiography of G. K. Chesterton has been published a few months after his death. As might be expected, Chesterton discusses most things at greater length than himself.

A FILM OF REMBRANDT

The story of Rembrandt, with Mr. Charles Laughton taking the part, has been filmed, and was shown to-night at the Leicester Square cinema.

Thursday 5

MADRID

The Madrid Cabinet has been once more reorganised, and a Supreme Defence Government is in office. The new Government has issued an appeal to the people. The enemy, it says, is at the gate of Madrid, only waiting to get in to vent his hate on the capital of the Revolution and of the Republic. It calls on all anti-Catholics to do their duty, observe iron discipline, and to be ready even for the supreme sacrifice. There has been fighting in the suburbs, and heavy guns are now shelling the centre of the city.

TRUNK ROADS

The Government have issued a Bill which makes the Minister of Transport responsible for about 4,500 miles of roads of major importance which will in future be known officially as trunk roads.

EDGAR ANDRÉ EXECUTED

The German Communist Edgar André was executed in Hamburg on a charge of murder, attempted murder, and preparation of high treason. André was sentenced on 18 July last. His offences date from the days of the street fighting in Hamburg between Nazis and Communists before Herr Hitler came to power. It was not proved at the trial that André actually took part in any of the clashes, in one of which a Nazi was killed, but the court held that as local leader of the illegal Red Front Fighters' League he was morally responsible. André was three years in prison, and his case aroused much interest in foreign countries. Only three weeks ago twenty British Labour peers and M.P.s made an appeal to Herr Hitler.

5-6 November

HAIG POPPIES IN FRANCE

The Flanders poppies to be sold in France on Armistice Day in aid of Lord Haig's Fund will be yellow, lest those wearing them be taken for Communists.

GUY FAWKES' DAY—A NEW RECORD

The London Fire Brigade received 116 calls in four hours to put out fires caused by fireworks. This beats last year's record by sixteen. At Lewes more than 20,000 torches were carried in a torchlight procession; about forty men and youths were arrested for discharging fireworks in the streets. At Cambridge about twenty undergraduates were arrested on Market Hill.

Friday 6

THE ASSAULT ON MADRID

The general attack on Madrid has begun. The city itself is being bombarded, and Villaverde, Carabanchel Alto, and Cuatro Vientos, with its military aerodrome have been taken. General Franco's "Fifth Column" of sympathetic Shock Guards, civil guards, and phalangists is now reported to be fighting the Madrid garrison from within, and with the aid of captured tanks to have taken trenches at the Casa del Campo. Insurgent aeroplanes have dropped another proclamation which reads: "The taking of Madrid is inevitable. Nothing can stop the glorious advance of the Nationals. If you desire to surrender, you can do so with the certainty that no reprisals will be taken against you. Only your chiefs and leaders will be punished, and no measures of violence will be taken against the population."

PALESTINE

The Higher Arab Committee have decided not to co-operate with the Royal Commission because the British Government will allow Zionist immigration to continue. The committee says that the strike was a protest against the denial of political rights to the Arabs, and, as the Colonial Secretary's decision is a strong assault upon Arab feelings, an encroachment on their rights, and proof of the absence of goodwill, it strongly protests against this stand.

ABYSSINIA

The detachment of Indian troops guarding the British Legation in Addis Ababa are at last to be withdrawn. Since the Italians entered the town last May they have lived within their barbed wire enclosure.

MR. R. S. LAMBERT'S SLANDER ACTION

The jury, after a three days' hearing, found in favour of Mr. R. S. Lambert, editor of the *Listener*, in his slander action against Sir Cecil Levita, and awarded him £7,500 damages. Mr. Lambert complained that Sir Cecil had slandered him to Mr. Gladstone Murray, who was then Assistant-Controller of Programmes for the B.B.C., saying, in effect, "Mr. Lambert some months ago fell under the influence of Harry Price and has been heard to express belief in the occult, notably in a talking mongoose. Also he has moved his house three times because of pursuit by the evil eye. Things like this have so upset Mr. Lambert's judgment that he is not competent as a Governor of the Film Institute." In the course of the action it was alleged that Mr. Lambert had been threatened that if he did not drop the action his position with the B.B.C. would be prejudiced, because "he would make the Corporation doubt his judgment and would seem to be placing his own interests in priority to those of the Corporation."

Mr. Justice Swift, summing up, said that if the jury found that the alleged slander was not true they must award such damages to Mr. Lambert as would show the world that the slander was not true and was not justified. It was a dreadful thing, when a man in a public position was affronted and outraged, and brought an action demanding redress for the wrong which had been done to him, that his employers should be approached behind his back and asked to bring pressure to bear on him to settle the matter.

FATHER COUGHLIN FADES OUT

Father Coughlin, the American "Radio Priest," announced in a broadcast that since his National Union for Social Justice had been thoroughly discredited by the election results in America he was withdrawing from all radio activity in the best interests of the people. This is in fulfilment of a promise made before the election that he would cease broadcasting if he failed to deliver 9,000,000 votes to Mr. William Lemke, the Union party's candidate for President. Actually Mr. Lemke polled 650,000 votes. By his broadcast speeches Father Coughlin, who was an unknown priest five years ago, has become the leading figure in national politics, but one whose influence seems to have been over-estimated.

AN ATHLETIC PHARAOH

An inscription of Pharaoh Amenhotep II, dating from 1447 B.C., has been found near the Sphinx of Giza, in which he

6-8 November

boasts of his athletic triumphs, declaring that he rowed a boat for three miles against the stream with an oar twenty ells long without fatigue when his rowers tired after half a mile; that he trained his horses so that they could be driven galloping without sweating; and shot from his chariot at copper targets as thick as his hand and drove the arrows clean through them.

Saturday 7

PRIVILEGES TO SOLDIERS

By order of the Army Council, British soldiers are to be granted greater freedom off parade. An N.C.O. not below the rank of sergeant may quit barracks at the end of each day's duty and remain out without a pass until again required for a specific duty. Soldiers when not detailed for a particular duty may remain out until 1 a.m. without a pass.

Sunday 8

MADRID

There has been fierce fighting outside Madrid, with heavy casualties. The Government have withdrawn to Valencia, leaving supreme power to a Junta under the Presidency of General Miaja. The insurgents claim to have occupied the University quarter. Since Madrid was bombed the murder gangs have reappeared. There is a general shortage of everything, but there is still bread, oil, rice, and lentils to be bought.

COLONEL BECK IN LONDON

Colonel Beck, the Polish Minister for Foreign Affairs, has come to London on an official visit.

WILLIAM WALLACE'S SWORD

Four young men entered the Wallace Monument at Stirling, near the battlefield of Bannockburn, broke open a glass case, and stole Wallace's great two-handed sword. As they rushed away they told the watchman that they were Scottish Nationalists.

A LOSS TO THE FLEA WORLD

Mr. William Heckler, owner of the Broadway Flea Circus in New York, is dead. Mr. Heckler in his long experience discovered that the flea has real individuality. His favourite was Paddy, an Irish flea, which gave 52,850 performances; another was Sandow, the world's strongest flea, which he bought from a ship's steward for twelve shillings. Of all the 134 species, only *pulex irritans*, which lives upon human beings, was intelligent enough to be trained. Mr. Heckler owned his flea circus for thirty-two years, and always fed his pets himself.

9-10 November

Monday 9

MADRID

Madrid is still holding out. The city has been severely shelled by artillery and bombed from the air, but so far all the attacks of the insurgents have been repulsed. Within the city, plans for street fighting are being drawn up. Every inhabitant is to provide himself with bottles of petrol corked with cotton wool. These are to be set on fire before being flung from roof-tops, terraces, or windows against tanks and armoured cars which may penetrate the streets.

PALESTINE

Fawzi ed-Din Kawakji, who was leader of the armed bands of Arabs in Palestine, has arrived with his companions at Baghdad, where they are being treated as guests by the Iraq Government and lodged at one of the leading hotels in Baghdad. Kawakji himself has been received in audience by King Ghazi, and banquets and demonstrations in his honour are being organised.

LORD MAYOR'S DAY

The pageant of the Lord Mayor's Show this year took the form of "London and the Defence of the Realm," and those taking part were dressed in the uniforms of the soldiers and sailors of ancient times as well as soldiers of the Great War and representatives of the Forces to-day. In the evening the Lord Mayor (Sir George Broadbridge) presided at the Guildhall Banquet. Mr. Baldwin in his speech surveyed foreign affairs. Speaking of rearmament, he said that if the nations of Europe devote for too long their care to arms and forget the conditions of their people, there will grow discontent and despair. "Indeed, if armaments continue I don't say they mean war, but they make war more likely. In this island home of ours we are looking now to our defences. And quite right too. But while I am prepared to devote all our efforts, whatever it may cost, in men and money, to do what is necessary, I am conscious all the time of the folly of all of us."

EMPLOYMENT

It is reported that 11,103,000 are now in employment, which is the highest total yet recorded.

Tuesday 10 A GREAT SEAMEN'S STRIKE IN THE UNITED STATES

A great strike of seamen, which extends over the whole coast of the United States, is increasing. In New York alone 73 ships are held up, and throughout the country 400.

10-11 November

AMERICAN AEROPLANES FOR BRITISH AIRWAYS

Negotiations sanctioned by the Air Ministry are beginning between British Airways and the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation of the United States for the delivery of Lockheed Electra air-liners for use on the mail services in London and Sweden. If the contract is placed, this will be the first time that an English subsidised air-line has bought foreign aircraft.

LEADERSHIP IN POLAND

General Edward Smigly-Rydz, Inspector-General of the Polish Forces, since the death of Marshal Pilsudski, is promoted to be Marshal in recognition of his many services to Poland.

Wednesday 11

ARMISTICE DAY

King Edward VIII for the first time as King was present at the Armistice Day Service at the Cenotaph. In the evening he attended the British Legion's Festival of Empire and Remembrance at the Albert Hall. He received a great ovation as he entered the Royal box with Sir Frederick Maurice.

An hour of colourful marching, music, and song filled the first part of the Festival. First came the entry of the Legion standards, with everybody singing "Pack up your troubles in your old kit-bag." When red-coated Chelsea Pensioners walked with no lack of precision through the hall, the chorus changed to "The Boys of the Old Brigade." For representatives of Women's War Services the march tune was "The Great Little Army." The entry of divisional signs brought up "Tipperary." Enthusiasm seemed to be cumulative as section after section of the pageant passed to the platform, and ran highest when the rising generation provided its contingent with boys of the training-ship *Stork*.

When the marching finished, Major Andrew Harris conducted the singing of war-time choruses, the songs which through their associations last on while those now crooned into microphones are in three months forgotten. The gathering at full voice let itself go with "The Long, Long Trail," "Who's your lady friend?", "If you were the only girl in the world," "Keep the home fires burning," "Take me back to dear old Blighty." While the choruses rose to the roof, wiring-parties, reliefs, and ration-parties stumbled and stole silently through the hall.

All this was entertainment, but the Festival of Remembrance

always passes to a deeper stirring of memories. After "Land of Hope and Glory" had been sung, with accompaniment by the bands and organ, the lights were dimmed, and clergy and choir, with the cross and banners of St. George, St. Andrew, and St. Patrick, moved in procession to the platform. A prayer was said, and Cecil Spring Rice's anthem, "I vow to thee, my country," was sung to a setting by Holst. Then the audience stood to join in the hymn "Eternal Father, strong to save" in grateful memory of Admiral of the Fleet Lord Jellicoe, whose loss the Legion mourns this year.

As the hymn ended, gardeners and caretakers who had come from the British War Cemeteries in France and Flanders entered. All light slowly faded out, except at one point, where at a rostrum on the platform the King could be seen standing alone.

A roll of drums shook the silence which had fallen, and on a screen there appeared a picture of crosses in a shell-battered area in the Ypres sector—a war-time cemetery. Drummers of the Grenadier Guards sounded "Last Post," and again there was silence. Then the King clearly and slowly spoke the lines:

*"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them."*

Thousands of firm and fervent voices gave the response: "We will remember them." A lovely treble voice sang as a solo the first verse of "The Supreme Sacrifice." The picture on the screen changed to one of a beautifully tended war cemetery of to-day, and as a quartet, and then the choir of the London College of Choristers took up the later verses of the poem, poppy petals began to drift down from the roof of the hall. There were over a million petals—one for each of the Empire's dead—and shadows thrown by a spotlight on the screen seemed to pile them on the war graves of the photograph. Reveille was sounded and light again flooded the hall.

The King, who had returned to his box, remained until the end of the Festival.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION IN PALESTINE

Lord Peel and the other members of the Royal Commission who are to inquire into the difficulties in Palestine have arrived in Jerusalem. They are staying at the King David Hotel.

12 November

Thursday 12

THE KING'S VISIT TO THE FLEET

The King visited the Home Fleet in Portland in rough weather. He first went on board H.M.S. *Nelson*; thence to the aircraft-carrier *Courageous*, where he inspected the men in pelting rain, passing up and down the ranks for nearly half an hour without an overcoat as he spoke to individuals. The inspection ended at 4.30, and in the evening the King returned to the *Courageous* for a lower-deck concert. Except for the King and his suite, no other officers were allowed to attend. As he entered, the audience gave him a great welcome. He made a little speech to the men, reminding them that he was trained in the Navy. Their gathering was somewhat in the nature of a homecoming, and he wished them all a pleasant time while they were on leave. During an interval between the turns the King left his seat and joined the sailors' mouth-organ band in the audience.

THE GOVERNMENT'S DEFENCE POLICY

The defence programme was discussed in Parliament, the debate being notable for Mr. Churchill's harsh criticism of the Government. He said that exactly two years ago he and his friends had warned the Conservative Government of the vast process of German rearmament. At that time he was regarded as an alarmist, but he had since been abundantly justified. The Government had made mistaken estimates of the strength of others, and they had clung to disarmament long after they knew the world was arming. Mr. Baldwin won an election on a pledge of no great armaments; he had delayed appointing a Minister to co-ordinate defence until nine months after the programme was issued; and he has jumbled the functions of the new Minister. The Territorial Force in particular, and the Army in general, lack almost every requirement for modern warfare. The nation which invented tanks has now only obsolete tanks to use. As for the Air Force, we were promised seventy-one new squadrons by March 1937, and so far had only twenty-eight. To-day, therefore, we had 960 first-line aircraft, and Germany not less than 1,500. There was nothing for it but a parliamentary inquiry. He was staggered by the failure of a House responsible for the national safety to react to accumulating proofs of danger, and particularly to the culminating proof that we could not greatly increase our strength for a year and a half, during which Germany must reach the critical point when she must either slack off or break out.

Mr. Baldwin, answering the criticisms of the Government,

admitted that the Government had started late. A democracy, as he had often said, is always two years behind a dictatorship. "I put before the whole House my own views with an appalling frankness," he went on. "From 1933 I and my friends were all very worried about what was happening in Europe. You will remember at that time the Disarmament Conference was sitting in Geneva, and there was probably a stronger pacifist feeling running through this country than at any time since the war. I am speaking of 1933 and 1934. You will remember the election at Fulham in the autumn of 1933, when a seat which the National Government held was lost by about 7,000 votes on no issue but the pacifist, and that the National Government candidate, who made a most guarded reference to the question of defence, was mobbed for it. That was the feeling that was in the country in 1933.

"My position as the leader of a great party was not altogether a comfortable one. I asked myself what chance was there within the next year or two of that feeling being so changed that the country would give a mandate for rearmament. Supposing I had gone to the country and said that Germany was rearming and that we must rearm—does anybody think that this pacific democracy would have rallied to that cry at that moment? I cannot think of anything that would have made the loss of the election from my point of view more certain. I think the country itself learned by certain events that took place during the winter of 1934-5 what the perils might be to this country. All I did was to take perhaps a moment less unfortunate than another might have been, and we won the election with a large majority. But, frankly, I could conceive that we should at that time, by advocating certain courses, have been a great deal less successful.

"We got from the country a mandate, with a large majority, for doing a thing that no one twelve months before would have believed possible. It is my firm conviction that had the Government, with this great majority, used that majority to do anything that might be described as arming without a mandate—and they did not do anything except the slightly increased air programme for which they gave their reasons—it would have defeated entirely the end I had in view.

"I shall always trust the instincts of our democratic people. They may come a little late, but—my word!—they come with a certainty when they do come; they come with a unity not imposed from the top, not imposed by force, but a unity that

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nothing can break. I believe to-day that, whatever differences there may be among us in the country on various questions—as there must be—the conviction is biting deep into our country, with all its love of peace, that there must be no going back on our resolution for such rearmament as we deem necessary to meet any possible peril from whatever quarter it may come. That feeling will be coupled with a feeling which we all have, that we are as anxious as ever to see all the countries of Europe considering disarmament, especially in the air. But until that day comes nothing will shake the resolution either of the Government or of this House or of our people.”

MADRID

Heavy infantry fighting still continues round Madrid. Insurgent cavalry have cut the road between Madrid and Guadalajara. In the city the Junta are controlling food-supplies; all foodstuffs entering Madrid are commandeered. Militiamen are forbidden to purchase in shops by walking to the head of the queues.

COLONEL BECK

Colonel Beck has returned to Poland, where the papers are optimistic that his meeting with Mr. Eden has achieved important results.

THE JARROW MARCHERS

Mr. Ernest Brown, the Minister of Labour, met a deputation of M.P.s from the Special Areas accompanied by some of the marchers; though he would not hold out any hopes that the regulations would be withdrawn, the deputation agreed that the air had been cleared.

MR. LAMBERT'S LIBEL ACTION

The Prime Minister has appointed a special Board to inquire into the evidence that high B.B.C. officials attempted to dissuade Mr. Lambert from continuing his action by threatening him with dismissal.

Friday 13

MADRID

The defenders of Madrid have counter-attacked, and claim to have captured several insurgent batteries. There were two spectacular air battles; each time six large black bombers appeared escorted by a cloud of scouts. They were driven off by Government scouts which were evidently manned by first-class pilots. In each raid two scouts were brought down.

AN UPROAR IN THE FRENCH CHAMBER

The French Chamber debated the case of M. Salengro, the Minister of the Interior, who is accused of having deserted to the enemy during the Great War. While M. Blum was trying to speak through noisy interruption, a deputy of the Right shouted out that he was not French. At this the more pugnacious members of M. Blum's party rose and dashed along the upper rows of benches to chastise the offender. They were met half-way by an equally infuriated rush from the extreme Right, and for five minutes about a hundred deputies engaged in combat on the floor. Directly the first blows were exchanged, M. Herriot seized his hat and walked out, thereby suspending the sitting, whilst M. Blum put on another pair of spectacles; these gave him a better view of the hostilities, which ended with the singing of the "Marseillaise" by both sides. At length the Chamber passed a resolution condemning the baselessness of the charges and calling on the Government to introduce a Bill which, while protecting the freedom of the Press, would enable all citizens to defend their honour against calumny and libel.

THE DEATH OF FANNY THE TURTLE

Fanny, the great turtle at the Zoo, is dead. She died of pneumonia. She was originally intended for soup, but, because of her great size, was sent to the Zoo in 1933. She weighed four hundredweight, and her shell measured over four feet.

Saturday 14 THE VERSAILLES TREATY AGAIN REPUDIATED

The German Government has denounced the regulation governing inland waterways, including the Kiel Canal, set up by the Treaty of Versailles, but state that this is the last step which Germany can take by unilateral action towards a revision of the treaty.

Sunday 15 MADRID

There is still violent fighting, particularly at the bridges. The Government have blown up the Puente de los Franceses; the insurgents claim to be across the Manzanares river with three columns. The Madrid troops are putting up a great resistance. Aeroplanes again raided the capital and a further sixty-seven people have been killed.

Monday 16 THE PUBLIC ORDER BILL

The new Public Order Bill has now been read for the second time in the House of Commons. It bans political uniforms, but

16 November

it does not apply to such uniforms as those worn by the Salvation Army or hospital nurses, and to prevent frivolous or malicious prosecutions the assent of a Law Officer of the Crown is first required. The only exception is that political uniforms may be worn on ceremonial or commemorative occasions by special permission of the police. Any body which proposes to train or equip its members to usurp the defences of the police or military, or to use force with a political object, is illegal, and it will be an offence if the organisation gives reasonable grounds for supposing that these are its purposes. The right to demonstrate is not destroyed, but the carrying of offensive weapons is prohibited; abusive or threatening language or behaviour is an offence, and the police will now have power to arrest rowdies imported to interrupt meetings. This Bill is so generally approved that the second reading was carried without a division.

GERMANY AND JAPAN

Germany and Japan are about to sign an agreement against Communism, which is less than a formal alliance, but more than a mere declaration. The purpose of the agreement is said to be to unite anti-Communist Powers. It is not directed against China; indeed, Japan wishes to include China in the league. The Japanese had hoped originally to include Great Britain, but Great Britain was unwilling to join in a proposal which would divide the world into Fascist and Communist *blocs*.

MADRID

The fiercest fighting still goes on along the River Manzanares. Three insurgent tanks succeeded in crossing by the new bridge, supported by Moorish infantry, who were driven back, the Moors losing heavily. General Miaja, the President of the Defence Junta, yesterday invited Press correspondents to visit the morgue and inspect a box dropped from an insurgent aeroplane attached to a parachute. It contained the mutilated body of a Government airman, whose name the General gave. Those who went to the morgue were shown the box full of flesh and bone wrapped in linen.

At Rio Tinto, Communist miners from the mines are taking refuge in the hills. Insurgent forces continue to clean up the district, where numbers of miners and other Rio Tinto employees have been shot.

A RECORD RUN TO GLASGOW

The world's record for a long-distance non-stop steam railway journey was made in a journey of 401½ miles between

Euston and Glasgow, which was covered at an average of 68.2 miles an hour by a special L.M.S. test train.

A WIFE-BEATER'S SENTENCE

Mr. Sabbatino, a New York magistrate, has devised a new method of discouraging peevish husbands. When Samuel Rubenstein, by trade a pedlar of neckties, was brought before him, charged with maltreating his wife, he sentenced the accused to take his wife to the cinema, with the strict command that he should hold her hand throughout the performance.

Tuesday 17

MADRID

There have been further air-raids and heavy casualties over Madrid and much fighting in the outskirts. The principal pictures of the Prado have now been removed for safety and carefully packed. The Government say that by a double counter-attack the Moors have been driven out of the Casa de Velasquez, and also out of the Faculty of Philosophy building in the University City.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

President Roosevelt is on his way to Buenos Aires, where he will speak at the opening session of the Pan-American Conference. This is the second time since the Great War that an American President has left his country to attend an international conference concerned with the problem of collective security.

A NEW BERNARD SHAW PLAY

The Forsyth Players at Bexhill gave the first performance of the new play by Bernard Shaw, called *The Millionairess*. It adds one more to the gallery of Shaw characters in Epifania.

Wednesday 18

THE GERMAN-JAPANESE AGREEMENT

It is strongly denied that Germany and Japan have signed any military alliance. The object of the intended agreement is declared to be to strengthen the two countries in matters of policy concerning their relations with Soviet Russia.

THE KING IN WALES

The King is on a two-day visit to the Special Areas in South Wales, which is interpreted as a gesture of sympathy with a community that for many years has suffered from the misery of unemployment. The tour was informal, and marked by many homely incidents. At his first call the King noticed an archway

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of leeks, erected by the miner settlers at the Boverton Co-operative Farm; he asked if some of them could be sent to London, because he likes them. He visited some of the cottages and spoke to the inhabitants. All the roads along which the King passed in the Rhondda Valley were lined with cheering crowds and schoolchildren. At Dowlais a large crowd watched the King alight from his car at the top of the hill by the now silent steel-works. As he passed into the yard a crowd of men standing on a mound of débris started to sing a Welsh hymn. The King was told that at one time 9,000 men were employed here, but in modern conditions the plant was obsolete and has had to be closed down. He asked a number of questions, then, looking round at the people standing in groups overlooking the desolate works, he said, "These people were brought here by these works. Some kind of employment must be found for them."

M. SALENGRO COMMITS SUICIDE

M. Roger Salengro, who has been so brutally abused of late in the French Press, has committed suicide by gas poisoning. When the news was known the offices of the *Guinguette* and other newspapers concerned in the campaign were guarded by the police. The *Guinguette* normally appears on Wednesday, but the printers refused to print it, and the newspaper carriers announced that they would not distribute it.

RECOGNITION OF FRANCO

It is announced both in Berlin and Rome that the German and Italian Governments have fully recognised the Spanish Government of General Franco. They have recalled their diplomatic missions from Alicante and Madrid and they will accredit Chargés d'Affaires to General Franco for the opening of diplomatic relations. Both announcements are in identical terms. It is generally believed that Italy is joining the German-Japanese agreement.

Thursday 19

THE KING IN WALES

The King on returning to London after his visit to South Wales sent a telegram to the Lords Lieutenant of Glamorgan and Monmouthshire, thanking them for the arrangements made for his visit, and hoping that soon some revival of industrial activity may bring back to them the prosperity which is their due. In the meantime, he concluded, "I would urge them not to lose heart and to rest assured that their troubles are not

forgotten." The King's visit has cheered the population as nothing else could have done.

MADRID

After a lull in the fighting, insurgent troops resumed their attack on Madrid. An uncensored dispatch in *The Times* reports that on Friday, 6 November, the spirits of the Government and their supporters reached their lowest ebb. In the night the Prime Minister and Minister of War, Señor Largo Caballero, left Madrid secretly by car. He was followed the next morning by the entire Cabinet, including the Principal Commissar for War, Señor Alvarez del Vayo, who is also Foreign Minister, and whose portrait below the inscription "Defend Madrid to the last" glares from all the walls. Even the Chief of Police and the Mayor of Madrid departed, accompanied by the Chief Censor and a cohort of Marxist journalists. The Censor unfortunately left a substitute. The Russian Ambassador, M. Rosenberg, had preceded this exodus by a couple of days.

All that week the Bank of Spain was steadily emptied. In the final days private deposit-boxes were opened and the contents taken away. A final purge of officials in the Ministries and the police was made. With many of the hostages removed from the jails, troops of the National Guard, formerly the Civil Guard, were withdrawn from the garrison. There was a bloody night or two when the walls of the Retiro Park were lined with corpses, and corpses also reappeared at the extremities of avenues, and even in some of the streets, before the Junta de Defensa got matters in hand.

To this Junta, composed of young revolutionary enthusiasts, with military advisers behind them, revolutionary Madrid owes a considerable debt. In its first week in office it restored the morale of the militia and raised it to a high pitch. This could not have been done without the reinforcements in men, guns, and material that have poured continuously into Madrid by way of Valencia and Albacete, and which have stiffened the defence. The appearance of the first battalion of the anti-Fascist militia was a heartening sight for the rather depressed Marxists. Their martial bearing, equipment, and assurance had an immediate effect. They went into action the same day. They were followed by a squadron of cavalry, mostly Frenchmen, who trotted along the Gran Via shouting "Vive l'Espagne," and giving the clenched fist salute. More battalions followed, especially of Germans; four of them are brigaded with militia columns. These, with Derruti's recently arrived Catalans, are the shock

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elements in the counter-attack. Brand new guns, apparently plentifully supplied with ammunition, support the advance, to supervise which the Principal Commissar for War laid aside his diplomatic duties and returned to Madrid.

The greatest encouragement is the appearance of a thoroughly re-equipped Air Force, with the latest scout machines and good bombers. There are higher hopes now than ever that Madrid will repeat Bolshevik Petrograd's feat, when in 1919 it frustrated the assault of General Yudenitch. General Franco has shown himself a cautious strategist and may have a surprise in store, but he has to face a far tougher proposition than twenty days ago.

A NEW UNIFORM FOR THE ARMY

At the Coronation it is intended to issue the blue uniform which the Regular or Territorial Army may now purchase for walking out. Mr. Duff Cooper, Secretary for War, speaking at a luncheon to mark the beginning of recruiting for the Territorial Army, said that recruiting for the Regular Army was in a very serious position, and unless there was an improvement, and a very large one, in the immediate future, the system would break down.

Friday 20

MADRID

There is still hard fighting in the University City, with varying fortunes. The Government forces captured the Casa de Velasquez, but were obliged to evacuate. Meanwhile the artillery of both sides pound the buildings of the University City. With the failure of the insurgents to make progress the spirits of the people of Madrid are rising.

A FASCIST LEADER SHOT

Don José Antonio Primo de Rivera, Marqués de Estella, son of the former Spanish dictator and leader of the Spanish Fascist party known as the Falange Española, has been executed at Alicante. Don Alfonso de Borbon y de Leon, Marqués de Squilache, and a Grandee of Spain, was executed in Madrid, where he was detained as a hostage. Prince Alonso of Bourbon-Orléans has been killed on the Madrid front. Both were cousins of King Alfonso.

Saturday 21

SIR JAMES BARRIE'S NEW PLAY

Sir James Barrie's new play, *The Boy David*, was produced at Edinburgh in anticipation of London production in the near

21-24 November

future. The part of David was taken by Miss Elisabeth Bergner, who has now recovered.

Sunday 22

M. SALENGRO

Crowds of about half a million people attended the funeral of M. Salengro at Lille. They came from all parts of eastern France, and they delayed the funeral procession so much that it was long after dark when at last, by the flickering light of torches, the coffin was laid in the grave.

SOVIET TRIALS

There has been another State trial in Russia. A German engineer, named Stickling, and eight other prisoners have been condemned to death at Novosibirsk. The proceedings were similar to those at the Zinovieff trial. The prisoners are alleged to have confessed to the most fantastic crimes proscribed by Trotsky and the German Secret Police, with the intention of destroying Soviet miners with gas, ruining Soviet industry, creating a spirit of rebellion against the Soviet Government, and establishing a Fascist-Capitalist régime in Russia. The German Ambassador in Moscow is making strenuous efforts to save the life of Stickling.

Monday 23

NO ARMS FOR SPAIN

In the House of Commons, Mr. Eden announced that the Government have at present no intention of giving belligerent rights to either side in Spain. It follows that the Government will, if necessary, protect British merchant ships from interference by either side on the high seas—that is, outside the three-mile limit. At the same time it is not their intention to allow British ships to carry war material from any foreign port to any Spanish port, and a Bill will be introduced to make the carrying of arms illegal.

THE KING'S VISIT TO SOUTH WALES

The King's visit to Wales has caused a good deal of comment in talk and in some newspapers, which use it as a stick to beat the Government. The King, it is said, unlike his Ministers, went to see for himself.

Tuesday 24

SPAIN

The Spanish Government allege that German and Italian warships are taking part in the war. They say that two Government warships at Cartagena were attacked by submarines last Sunday, which must of necessity belong to a foreign fleet

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because the insurgents possess no submarines. Further, there have been a number of night bombardments against points on the eastern coast by which Spanish ships carrying foodstuffs along the Mediterranean have been sunk, and they deduce that many of these attacks made under cover of darkness must be charged to foreign warships. German cruisers and destroyers, they say, constantly watch the Republican fleet at Malaga, informing the enemy of its movements. On nights during which aerial bombardments took place the German warships remained illuminated, thus acting as beacons. These reports are denied in Berlin.

THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

The Nobel Peace Prize Committee has awarded the prize for 1935 to Herr Karl von Ossietzky, the German pacifist, and for 1936 to Dr. Carlos Saavedra Lamas, the Argentine Minister for Foreign Affairs.

THE EGYPTIAN TREATY

In the House of Commons the ratification of the Egyptian Treaty was passed without serious criticism.

LORD NUFFIELD'S GIFT TO OXFORD INCREASED

Lord Nuffield has decided to increase his recent gifts for medical research at Oxford by another £567,000, making a total of £2,000,000.

A NEW SALUTE

A new "democratic" salute is being introduced in Argentina. The new gesture consists of raising both hands joined above the head to signify equal opposition to both political extremes—the raised arm salute of the Fascists and the closed fist of the Communists.

Wednesday 25

THE END OF EUSTACE

Eustace, the stork which left the Isle of Wight on 6 October, is dead. The ring from his leg has been returned to the Haslemere Educational Museum from the bird-watching station at Rossitten, East Prussia.

GERMANY AND JAPAN

The agreement between Germany and Japan against the Communist International was signed in Berlin by the Japanese Ambassador and Herr von Ribbentrop, the German Ambassador in London. There are three articles in the agreement: the first that each party agrees to inform the other of the activities

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of the Communist International and to consult on necessary preventive measures; the second that a third State whose internal peace is threatened by the Communist International shall be invited to join, and the third that the agreement lasts for five years. The Japanese Government declare that there is no further agreement behind the present negotiations.

THE GERMAN ENGINEER REPRIEVED

The Soviet Government have commuted the death-sentence on the German engineer Stickling and two other Russians to ten years' imprisonment. The other six prisoners have been shot.

TROUBLE ON THE NORTH-WEST FRONTIER

Trouble has broken out in the Khaisora Valley. Two columns were sent to march through the area which has been disaffected through the activities of the Fakir of Ipi. They were stubbornly opposed by large numbers of tribesmen, and in the fight that followed two British officers and fourteen Indian other ranks were killed, and two British officers, nine other ranks, and sixty-six Indian troops wounded.

THE KING'S HOUSE

The house known as the King's House at Burhill, which was presented to King George V as a Silver Jubilee gift by the Royal Warrant Holders' Association, is to have as its first occupant Admiral Sir Reginald G. O. Tupper.

FOGGY WEATHER

Fog persists in many parts of the country now for six days in succession.

Thursday 26

THE GERMAN-JAPANESE AGREEMENT

The German-Japanese agreement appears not to have been received with much enthusiasm in Japan, because Communism there is moribund, and the pact will increase friction between Russia and Japan, and endanger friendly relations with Great Britain and the United States. In China there is considerable alarm. The new Chinese Army has been trained by German officers, and the trade between Germany and China has risen greatly of recent years, so that in fact China has closer relations with Germany than with any other foreign Power.

A GERMAN PROTEST ABOUT THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

The German Minister in Oslo has protested to the Norwegian Government against the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to Herr von Ossietzky, but the Government point out

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that the Nobel Committee does not act on instruction from the Norwegian Government, who can therefore take no responsibility.

A STUDENTS' STRIKE

Last Monday night students at the Pilsudski University started an anti-Jewish stay-in strike. About 200 male and female students barricaded themselves in and resisted expulsion until the police drove them out, using tear-gas with the aid of firemen and their hoses.

NO CONSCRIPTION IN ENGLAND

There have been a number of rumours lately that the Cabinet is considering some form of conscription for military service, but this is now denied.

SLAVERY IN AMERICA

A planter and Town Marshal of Earl, Arkansas, has been convicted in the Federal Court at Jonesboro of violating the anti-slavery laws. He was accused of combining his capacities as a planter and an officer of the peace by falsely causing a party of negroes to be arrested for vagrancy. He then induced a local magistrate to sentence them to work on his plantation, thus securing free labour. The judge said that this was not an isolated case in Arkansas, and the abuse must be stopped. The planter was sentenced to imprisonment for two years and a fine of 3,500 dollars.

Friday 27

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CABINET

There are many rumours of a special meeting of the Cabinet which was held this morning hurriedly in the Prime Minister's room at the House of Commons. The Ministers were in conference for nearly an hour and a half.

THE SPANISH WAR

Señor Alvarez del Vayo, the Spanish Foreign Minister, has requested that the Council of the League of Nations should be summoned to examine the situation in Spain. They accuse Germany and Italy of armed intervention in favour of the rebels, and thereby of committing an act of aggression against the Spanish Republic. A party of British M.P.s. is visiting Madrid, where they are being conducted round the front. There is at present a lull in operations.

AN ACCIDENT AT THE LONDON UNIVERSITY

Sir Edwin Deller, Principal of the University of London, Mr. Harold Claughton, Clerk of the Court, and three others

were gravely injured whilst touring the new University buildings now rising in Russell Square. The party was going up in a lift to the tower when a workman, not noticing that the lift had been withdrawn, pushed an empty skip over the space and fell on top of them. Sir Edwin is critically ill.

SIR BASIL ZAHAROFF

Sir Basil Zaharoff, international financier, banker, and industrialist, has died at Monte Carlo at the age of eighty-seven. As he was a man of wealth who made most of his money in munitions and at the same time was an excessive lover of privacy, he was regarded by the sensational as a sinister man of mystery.

NO CRITICISM OF ART

Dr. Goebbels, the German Propaganda Minister, has issued instructions forbidding criticism of works of art, literature, music, and drama. Instead of criticism there is to be objective analysis and description, but the commentator will not be permitted to say that a work of art or a performance is either good or bad. This does not mean, he says, the suppression of freedom of opinion, but that only those may publish their opinion who have a free opinion of their own and are qualified by their knowledge, accomplishments, and abilities to sit in judgment on those who appeal to the public with imaginative work. Recently, in Berlin, twenty-two year old youngsters have drawn swords against accomplished artists forty or fifty years of age and famous throughout the world. It could not be tolerated. Whilst in everything else the *Führer's* great constructive work was warmly supported by public opinion, artists, of all people, should be the last victims of free criticism. It must not be said fifty years hence of our time that, without raising a finger, real genius was allowed to be tormented and tortured by ephemeral criticism, and in that way to a certain extent ruined.

FANNY BRAWNE'S LETTERS

A series of letters written by Fanny Brawne to Fanny Keats, the poet's sister, between September 1820 and June 1824, have been presented to the Keats Memorial House in Hampstead. These letters entirely dispel the old view of Fanny Brawne as being a silly flirt for whom the poet suffered an unworthy and unrequited passion.

A GIANT PANDA CAPTURED

Mrs. Ruth Harkness, whose late husband captured the giant lizards known as Komodo dragons, that are now in the Bronx

27-30 November

Zoo, is leaving Shanghai for America with a unique capture—the first specimen of the Giant Panda to be taken alive. After an adventurous journey in the Wassu country, with a Chinese explorer, Mrs. Harkness located a female Giant Panda which bolted, leaving a new-born cub in a hollow tree. The Giant Panda was first discovered in 1868, but for sixty years no white man ever saw a specimen in its native haunts. It was known to scientists from dried skins and skulls. In 1928 Kermit and Theodore Roosevelt shot a fine adult male Panda in a snow-storm, and three others have been shot since by white men. The Giant Panda when fully grown is about the size of a small bear, but has a much longer tail than the true bear, and has white on the head and body, with black circles round the eyes. Its ears and legs are black and it has a black band over the shoulders.

Saturday 28

SPAIN

Don Francisco Largo Calvo, elder son of the Prime Minister, has been shot by the insurgents as a reprisal for the death of the young Marqués de Estella. On the Madrid front the situation is quieter except for air-raids. Government troops at Oviedo have made some progress against the insurgents besieged there.

Monday 30

MADRID

British M.P.s are still touring Madrid to make themselves acquainted with present conditions. They were told that between 8 and 18 November, 365 persons had been killed and 1,936 injured in air-raids. In the last three weeks about 200,000 persons have been evacuated from Madrid. About one-third of the capital has been damaged by shell-fire, and abandoned.

At Valencia there is a move by the Anarcho-Syndicalist members of the Cabinet for a unified military command. As the Minister of Industry expressed it, "It is inadmissible that at the central war front there should be six independent general staffs." Señora Montseny, the Minister of Health, also criticised the lack of unity. "At the outbreak of the war," she said, "the militia was very dangerous to the enemy because fighting was in the streets and along the highways. Later, when the command ordered an operation, the militiamen would assemble to discuss it. Five, six, seven hours were lost in discussion, and when the operation was finally begun the enemy had already obtained their object." She predicted that before the war could be ended there would be few cities undestroyed in Spain. "Just as we will dynamite and destroy Madrid rather than permit the

enemy to enter there, the enemy will burn Saragossa and Seville rather than deliver those cities to us. After the war it will be necessary to reconstruct Spain from top to bottom."

THE CRYSTAL PALACE DESTROYED

Most of the Crystal Palace at Sydenham and all that was in it was destroyed by a fire which broke out about 7.30 in the evening. The fire was first noticed in the main central part of the building. Firemen came from all parts of London and the suburbs, but they could do nothing more than delay the end. A fresh wind was blowing from the north-west and soon turned the whole into one glorious bonfire. Thousands of people saw the glare and set out for the palace by every means of transport. Others learned of the event from the B.B.C. news and hastened to join them.

LORD NUFFIELD'S EMPLOYEES

Lord Nuffield has established a special fund by which the workers in his factories are to become shareholders. The basis of the fund is a million stock units in Morris Motors Limited, worth £2,125,000. Since his recent gift to Oxford University, Lord Nuffield has been receiving 500 letters a day from others who would likewise benefit from his wealth.

THE DEATH OF SIR EDWIN DELLER

Sir Edwin Deller, Principal of the University of London, died of his injuries. To him more than to any other man was due the new building which in time will worthily house the University of London.

Tuesday 1 December

THE BISHOP OF BRADFORD

Yesterday, at the Bradford Diocesan Conference, Dr. Blunt, Bishop of Bradford, spoke of the Coronation Service, severely criticising some views of the Bishop of Birmingham. The service, he said, was not a national pageant, but a sacramental rite. "The benefit of the King's Coronation," he added, "depends, under God, upon two elements: first, on the faith, prayer, and self-dedication of the King himself, and on that it would be improper for me to say anything except to commend him, and ask you to commend him, to God's grace, which he will so abundantly need, as we all need it—for the King is a man like ourselves—if he is to do his duty faithfully. We hope that he is aware of his need. Some of us wish that he gave more positive signs of his awareness."

This speech is much noticed in the northern newspapers, who have at last broken the silence and openly discuss the many rumours about the King's private affairs which have been widely talked of in the last months, and especially since Mrs. Simpson's divorce. For a long time it has been openly said in America, and especially in the more scurrilous papers, that King Edward intends to marry Mrs. Simpson directly after the Coronation, and to make her Queen. But the English newspapers hitherto have said nothing.

Wednesday 2

THE KING

All the papers, London and provincial, to-day comment on the rumours about the King and Mrs. Simpson, and there is a notable weakness in Government Stocks on the Stock Exchange, where there is some concern felt that a constitutional crisis is at hand. At six o'clock in the evening Mr. Baldwin drove to Buckingham Palace, and remained with the King for about an hour.

SPAIN

Eighteen aeroplanes bombed Madrid in the morning, destroying several houses and killing civilians. The British M.P.s were taken to see results, and were so horrified that they sent a telegram to General Franco protesting against the bombing of areas known to be inhabited wholly by civilians, and denouncing it as an outrage. The situation in Madrid is much more favourable to the Government. Thousands of volunteers from all over Europe are arriving, as well as supplies, and there are now many new guns on the heights of Madrid well supplied with ammunition. In the air the Government has also many bombing and fighter aeroplanes with bright red-coloured mountings. Fifty prisoners were shot at Alicante at the week-end in reprisal for the insurgent air-raids.

"VOLUNTEERS" IN SPAIN

It is said that a large contingent of Germans, estimated at 5,000, has landed at Cadiz, and passed through Seville on its way to the insurgent front. These volunteers are not wearing uniforms, but are reported to have come with arms and equipment. The report is denied in Berlin, where it is said that if there are any Germans taking part in the Spanish war they can only be a few volunteers.

In Parliament, the Bill for preventing the carrying of arms from foreign ports to Spain in British ships was hotly debated;

the second and third readings were finally carried. Labour members opposed the Bill, mostly on the ground that it would act wholly against the Spanish Government, and that no attempt had been made to see that those nations—Germany, Italy, and Portugal—who were backing the insurgents would follow the same policy.

Four thousand men are reported to have joined the Government at Barcelona.

THE NON-INTERVENTION COMMITTEE

The Non-Intervention Committee have decided that the plan for the prevention of the importation of arms and war material into Spain at the principal points of entry by land and sea shall be immediately sent by the British Government to the two parties in Spain, and that the Chairman's Sub-Committee shall take up the question of volunteers. The Portuguese representatives, however, would not vote on the first proposal.

NEW ARMY UNIFORMS

The King inspected the new blue walking-out uniform which Regular and Territorial soldiers will wear at the Coronation. He suggested certain minor alterations.

PLAYS ABOUT QUEEN VICTORIA

The King has given his permission for plays concerning the life of Queen Victoria to be licensed for production after 20 June, 1937, the centenary of Queen Victoria's Accession.

BLOTTO SERVICE

A new taxi-cab service has been inaugurated at Tulsa, Oklahoma. When a citizen of Tulsa has passed so cheerful an evening that he finds himself unable to drive his own car home he can now ring up for a taxi, and on giving the words "Blotto service" a cab arrives with two drivers. One takes the diner home in the taxi and the other follows with his own car, thereby saving the inhabitants of Tulsa much danger and inconvenience.

Thursday 3

THE KING

Nearly every paper now prints big accounts of an acute constitutional crisis, as if the King had informed the Ministers of his intention to marry Mrs. Simpson, and they had objected to his choice.

In Parliament, Mr. Attlee asked the Prime Minister whether

any constitutional difficulties had arisen and whether he had any statement to make. Mr. Baldwin replied, "I have no statement to make to-day. While there does not at present exist any constitutional difficulty, the situation is of such a nature as to make it inexpedient that I should be questioned about it at this stage." Mr. Churchill asked that the Prime Minister should give assurance that no irrevocable step will be taken before a full statement has been made to Parliament. This question was received with cheers. Late at night Colonel Wedgwood was endeavouring to place a motion on the Order Paper that "in the opinion of this House the Oath of Allegiance which they have already taken to King Edward VIII is unaffected by any form of Coronation ceremony or by the presence thereof or absence therefrom of any dignitary or personage whatever; nor will they substitute any other for the King of England."

To-day the King spent the day at Fort Belvedere, where there is much coming and going of dispatch-riders and members of his personal staff. About 8.30 in the evening he returned to Buckingham Palace and entered at one of the side gates. There was a considerable crowd in front of the palace, but they did not see him. Ten minutes earlier the Duke of York had arrived and gone to the King's private apartments. He left the palace at about a quarter to nine and drove to Marlborough House to dine with Queen Mary.

At 9.15 this evening the Prime Minister arrived at Buckingham Palace and entered unnoticed by the crowd. He returned to the House of Commons about 10 o'clock, and shortly after left for Downing Street. Later in the evening Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Chamberlain, and Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, and the High Commissioners for South Africa and Canada, had a discussion in the Houses of Parliament. At 10.40 the King left for Marlborough House to visit Queen Mary. Later he returned to the palace, and in the early hours of the morning motored to Fort Belvedere. The members of the Royal Family have cancelled their public engagements.

MADRID

There were several bombing raids on Madrid and casualties amongst civilians. The insurgents are slowly being driven out of the University City now that the Government troops are well supplied with artillery. It is alleged that the insurgents have been using gas. The British M.P.s have left Madrid. They have been received everywhere with respect and sympathy and allowed to see what they liked without interference.

GERMAN FATS TO BE RATIONED

A rationing system for butter, margarine, and other fats is being introduced in Germany in the middle of January. A short time ago the manufacturing dairies were ordered to cut down their deliveries of butter by 20 per cent, which is to be handed over to the Government officials and distributed where need is greatest. In spite of all efforts to increase home production, Germany still imports 55 per cent of the population's requirements in fats.

AN ANCIENT VESSEL

A Bude ketch named the *Ceres*, which foundered during the fog in the Bristol Channel, has been continuously in service since she was built in 1811. She was originally one of the heavily rigged fruit smacks which plied between the west of England and Spain: and in 1813-14 she carried military stores to the Duke of Wellington in the Peninsula. Since then she has been employed in the coast trade round Great Britain.

Friday 4

THE KING

In the House of Commons Mr. Baldwin said:

"In view of widely circulated suggestions as to certain possibilities in the event of the King's marriage I think it would be advisable for me to make a statement. Suggestions have appeared in certain organs of the Press of yesterday and again to-day that, if the King decided to marry, his wife need not become Queen. These ideas are without any constitutional foundation. There is no such thing as what is called a morganatic marriage known to our law. The Royal Marriages Act of 1772 has no application to the sovereign himself. Its only effect is that the marriage of any other member of the Royal Family is null and void unless the sovereign's consent declared under the Great Seal is first obtained.

"This Act, therefore, has nothing to do with the present case. The King himself requires no consent from any other authority to make his marriage legal, but, as I have said, the lady whom he marries by the fact of her marriage to the King necessarily becomes Queen. She herself, therefore, enjoys all the status, rights, and privileges which, both by positive law and by custom, attach to that position, and with which we are familiar in the cases of Her late Majesty Queen Alexandra and Her Majesty Queen Mary, and her children would be in the direct line of succession to the throne.

"The only possible way in which this result could be avoided would be by legislation dealing with a particular case. His Majesty's Government are not prepared to introduce such legislation. Moreover, the matters to be dealt with are of common concern to the Commonwealth as a whole, and such a change could not be effected without the assent of all the Dominions. I am satisfied, from inquiries I have made, that this assent would not be forthcoming.

"I have felt it right to make this statement before the House adjourns to-day in order to remove a widespread misunderstanding. At this moment I have no other statement to make."

The King spent the day at Fort Belvedere. About 6 o'clock in the evening he received Mr. Baldwin, who remained with him for about an hour. The Prime Minister then returned to Downing Street and was visited by the Home Secretary. Mrs. Simpson is known to have left England for France last night. She crossed from Newhaven to Dieppe and is reported to be motoring southwards. A group of Members of Parliament from all parties in the House have sent a personal letter to the King assuring him that they are prepared to support him in any action he may think it necessary to take to defend his constitutional rights. This business has stirred the English people as nothing since the Great Strike. Even complete strangers discuss it with each other in railway carriages.

THE NORTH-WEST FRONTIER

There have been no further incidents in the Khaisora Valley, but the Fakir of Ipi is still hostile to the Government and says he will oppose any movement of troops in the valley. His supporters are said to have lost 47 killed and 110 wounded in the late fighting.

THE SCHOOL-LEAVING AGE LOWERED IN GERMANY

The Education Minister has ordered a year to be cut off the period of school education. The *Ober-prima*, or senior form in the high school, is therefore abolished. In March next the *Unter-prima*, the next highest form, will pass out as well, and, to make matters easier for the younger students, no written examination will be held. As a result, students will leave the high schools at the age of eighteen instead of nineteen.

THE HITLER YOUTH

General Göring, as Reich Forest Master and Commissioner for the Four-Year Plan, has ordered all the Hitler Youth to

spend the week-end in the woods collecting beech-nuts, which, it is explained, yield a very high-grade and tasty salad oil.

NO WHITE HEATHIER FOR PESHAWAR

There was no white heather at the St. Andrew's night dinner at the Peshawar Club. A large consignment sent out from Scotland was confiscated by the Karachi customs authorities under the impression that it was a diseased plant.

No. 552

Work has begun on the new Cunarder No. 552, which is to be the sister ship to the *Queen Mary*.

Saturday 5

THE KING

The Cabinet met at 10 o'clock for forty minutes, when the Prime Minister gave his colleagues an account of his audience with the King last night, but it was recognised that no useful purpose could be served by further discussions. Ministers are accordingly asked to keep within easy reach of London. In the meantime the situation is left in the hands of a small body of Ministers.

Mr. Baldwin had a further audience with the King at Fort Belvedere in the evening and returned to Downing Street about 8.30. Lord Craigavon, Prime Minister of Northern Ireland, dined with him, and later, on leaving, he said to the waiting reporters: "I have nothing to say, but trust Baldwin."

Sunday 6

THE KING

Rumours about the secret history of the King's private affairs increase. It is said that Ministers presented the King with an ultimatum, but this is now known to be false; that they have been using their influence upon their colleagues in the Dominions and upon Opposition leaders to bring pressure upon him; that they are now urging the King either to renounce his proposed marriage with Mrs. Simpson or to abdicate.

Mrs. Simpson has arrived at Cannes, and is staying with friends in their villa. She has made no statement to the Press, nor given interviews, although many are printed in newspapers.

THE CABINET

There was much activity all day in Downing Street. In the evening Sir Archibald Sinclair, leader of the Opposition Liberals, visited the Prime Minister, and later the Archbishop of Canterbury.

THE POPE

The Pope's health again causes anxiety. He is said to be in much pain from gout and a recurrence of asthma. All audiences have been suspended, and he has been visited by members of his family.

FRANCE

The Chamber by 352 votes to 169 expressed its confidence in M. Blum, but the Communists abstained from voting. M. Blum's first impulse was to resign, and it was only by a Cabinet meeting hastily summoned that his colleagues dissuaded him.

Monday 7

PARLIAMENT AND THE CRISIS

Both Houses were crowded this afternoon. In question time Colonel Wedgwood asked the Prime Minister whether there would be an early opportunity for discussing his motion concerning the Coronation ceremony. When Mr. Baldwin replied, "No, sir," there were loud cheers. Then Mr. Attlee asked whether the Prime Minister had anything to add to his statement last Friday. Mr. Baldwin replied:

"Yes, sir. I am glad to have the occasion of making a further statement on the position. In considering this whole matter, it has always been, and remains, the earnest desire of the Government to afford to His Majesty the fullest opportunity of weighing a decision which involves so directly his own future happiness and the interests of all his subjects.

"At the same time they cannot but be aware that any considerable prolongation of the present state of suspense and uncertainty would involve risk of the gravest injury to national and Imperial interests, and, indeed, no one is more insistent upon this aspect of the situation than His Majesty.

"In view of certain statements which have been made about the relations between the Government and the King, I should add that, with the exception of the question of morganatic marriage, no advice has been tendered by the Government to His Majesty, with whom all my conversations have been strictly personal and informal. These matters were not raised first by the Government but by His Majesty himself in conversation with me some weeks ago, when he first informed me of his intention to marry Mrs. Simpson whenever she should be free.

"The subject has, therefore, been for some time in the King's mind, and as soon as His Majesty has arrived at a conclusion as to the course he desires to take he will no doubt

communicate it to his Governments in this country and the Dominions. It will then be for those Governments to decide what advice, if any, they would feel it their duty to tender to him in the light of his conclusion.

"I cannot conclude this statement without expressing—what the whole House feels—our deep and respectful sympathy with His Majesty at this time."

Mr. Churchill again, for the third time, asked that no irrevocable step should be taken, but he was greeted from all sides of the House with cries of "No!" and "Sit down!"

THE KING

The King spent the whole day at Fort Belvedere, and in the evening was visited by the Duke of York. Mr. Walter Monckton, Attorney-General to the Duchy of Cornwall, visited Buckingham Palace and later called on the Prime Minister. He spent nearly two and a half hours in Downing Street, and in the afternoon went back to Fort Belvedere. Lord Brownlow, who accompanied Mrs. Simpson to Cannes, has stated at a special meeting of Press representatives that hitherto Mrs. Simpson has given no interviews of any sort, or made any statement to the Press. She now made this official statement:

"Mrs. Simpson, throughout the last few weeks, has invariably wished to avoid any action or proposal which would hurt or damage His Majesty or the throne.

"To-day her attitude is unchanged, and she is willing, if such action would solve the problem, to withdraw forthwith from a situation that has been rendered both unhappy and untenable."

MADRID

Madrid has now been besieged for a month. The entrances to the city have been fortified, and every conceivable obstacle is set in the way of the insurgents, who are now faced with a long period of trench warfare in severe weather.

Tuesday 8

THE KING

The Prime Minister, who has not seen the King since Saturday, had a further audience this evening at Fort Belvedere, and stayed to dinner. There is a growing feeling that the King's intentions should be announced as soon as possible. The Prime Minister arrived at Fort Belvedere about 5.15 and remained to dinner with the King. Meanwhile the Duke of Kent had already been at Fort Belvedere for several hours.

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Later the Duke of York, who had a conference with the King on Monday night until after midnight, returned about 6.30 and joined the King's other visitors in conference and had dinner. The Prime Minister was nearly five hours at Fort Belvedere, and reached Downing Street about 11 o'clock at night.

A NEW GERMAN BATTLESHIP

The second of the two 26,000-ton battleships building for the German Navy was launched at Kiel in the presence of Herr Hitler, and named *Gneisenau* by Frau Märker, widow of the captain of the cruiser *Gneisenau*, which was sunk at the Battle of the Falkland Islands twenty-two years ago to-day. There was a mishap in the launching, for the ship came down the slipway too fast and the high wind increased her momentum. Two drag-chains broke, and she came into collision, with slight impact, with the sea wall, but no damage was done. Colonel-General Freiherr von Fritsch in a short speech recalled the achievements of the great Prussian soldier after whom the battleship is named, and the heroic death of officers and men of the earlier *Gneisenau*. Apostrophising the ship, he said:

"Be loyal! Be witness to the power and prestige of the Third Reich on distant shores. Prepare in careful peace-time work for the day of destiny—which we do not desire, but which shall find us prepared—the day on which the *Führer* and Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces calls upon you to do your duty as did the hero whose spirit lives in your commander and crew. The first in attack, the last to abandon the chase, be bold, loyal, and fortunate, and honour in that way the great soldier whose name you carry."

SPAIN

A correspondent in *The Times* thus describes Andalusia under General Franco: "To go from the Spain of the Government to insurgent Spain is to go from darkness into light—artificial light though it may be. The insurgents have done a great deal to restore order in the country under their control, even though their methods may seem questionable. The contrast is startling between Malaga, where economic life has to a great extent broken down, and Seville, where trade goes on very much as before the revolution, with the notable exception that the constant strikes have ceased.

"In insurgent Andalusia life and property are safer now than they have been for a long time past. The streets are clean

and orderly, traffic is well regulated, and the transport services are running as efficiently as it is allowed by the needs of the Army, which are the first concern. Life under insurgent rule is certainly, for such as accept it, a much less hazardous affair than it was in the same territory before. But the most stringent means have been used to enforce it, and by no means all the people are contented.

"The strictest martial law is in force, and all signs of Communism, anarchism, and trade unionism are being ruthlessly exterminated. At Jerez de la Frontera a dozen workmen decided to go on strike—though this form of self-expression, with many others, has been declared illegal—as a protest against the shooting of some Communists. With complete naïvety they went to the *Comandancia Militar* and announced their intention. They were promptly arrested and shot. In Andalusia, though the insurgents have not shown the same brutality in the elimination of their opponents as the Government's supporters, great numbers of Government sympathisers have been shot. In theory, and probably often in practice, suspected persons are brought before an avowedly summary form of court-martial, but there are many ugly stories of shootings without even the barest form of trial, and there has been at least one case of a 'shooting-party' in Seville which members of the public were invited to attend. 'I have not much use for Communists,' said one man; 'they are perhaps better out of the way; but I cannot forgive the shooting of the moderate Left.' The hand of the military dictatorship in Andalusia is anything but gloved; but it should be pointed out that many of those who have been executed have been deliberately disobeying the military authorities' decrees in full knowledge of the penalties involved."

A GIFT TO LEEDS UNIVERSITY

A gift of £200,000 has been made to Leeds University by Mr. Frank Parkinson. It is intended for a new main frontage to the University buildings, which will contain an Assembly Hall for students.

Wednesday 9

THE KING

A message from the King to Parliament announcing the King's decision will be read to-morrow. There is now a general feeling that he will abdicate rather than renounce his marriage. He is still at Fort Belvedere. In the afternoon Queen Mary, with the Princess Royal and the Earl of Athlone, visited him,

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and also the Duke of York and the Duke of Kent. Mr. Walter Monckton and Sir Godfrey Thomas, the King's Private Secretary, have spent much of the day in consultation at Downing Street.

A DISPUTE BETWEEN FRANCE AND TURKEY

There has for long been a dispute between the Turkish and French Governments on the question of Alexandretta and Antioch. The Turkish Government have now requested a special session of the Council of the League of Nations to decide this matter. Turkey asks for virtual independence in the Sanjak of Alexandretta, but France replies that their rights are fully guaranteed under the Franco-Syrian Treaty. It is felt that independence would make the Sanjak an easy prey for all kinds of international intrigues and disturbances. The French say that the Turkish inhabitants of Alexandretta form no more than 39 per cent of the total population, but the Turkish Government claims that 80 per cent are Turkish.

AN AIR CRASH AT PURLEY

An air-liner of the Royal Dutch Air Lines, with thirteen passengers and four crew, crashed in the fog in Hill Crest Road, Purley. All but three were killed.

THE TEST MATCH

The English cricket team in Australia has won the first Test Match by 322 runs. In the first innings England made 318; the Australians answered with 334. In the second innings England reached 356, but in their second innings the Australians collapsed and were all out for 58.

Thursday 10

KING EDWARD VIII ABDICATES

King Edward VIII announced his abdication to both Houses of Parliament to-day.

At the end of questions, Mr. Baldwin rose from the Treasury Bench and walked to the Bar of the House. Turning and facing the Speaker, he announced, amid dead silence:

"A message from His Majesty the King, signed by His Majesty's own hand."

After bowing to the Chair, he advanced and handed the message to the Speaker, who read it, as follows:

"After long and anxious consideration, I have determined to renounce the Throne to which I succeeded on the death of my father, and I am now communicating this, my final and

irrevocable decision. Realising as I do the gravity of this step, I can only hope that I shall have the understanding of my peoples in the decision I have taken and the reasons which have led me to take it. I will not enter now into my private feelings, but I would beg that it should be remembered that the burden which constantly rests upon the shoulders of a sovereign is so heavy that it can only be borne in circumstances different from those in which I now find myself. I conceive that I am not overlooking the duty that rests on me to place in the forefront the public interests, when I declare that I am conscious that I can no longer discharge this heavy task with efficiency or with satisfaction to myself.

"I have accordingly this morning executed an Instrument of Abdication in the terms following:

" 'I, Edward VIII, of Great Britain, Ireland, and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Emperor of India, do hereby declare my irrevocable determination to renounce the Throne for myself and for my descendants, and my desire that effect should be given to this Instrument of Abdication immediately.

" 'In token whereof I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of December, nineteen hundred and thirty-six, in the presence of the witnesses whose signatures are subscribed.

" '(Signed) EDWARD, R.I.'

"My execution of this Instrument has been witnessed by my three brothers, Their Royal Highnesses the Duke of York, the Duke of Gloucester, and the Duke of Kent.

"I deeply appreciate the spirit which has actuated the appeals which have been made to me to take a different decision, and I have, before reaching my final determination, most fully pondered over them. But my mind is made up. Moreover, further delay cannot but be most injurious to the peoples whom I have tried to serve as Prince of Wales and as King, and whose future happiness and prosperity are the constant wish of my heart.

"I take my leave of them in the confident hope that the course which I have thought it right to follow is that which is best for the stability of the Throne and Empire and the happiness of my peoples. I am deeply sensible of the consideration which they have always extended to me both before and after my accession to the Throne, and which I know they will extend in full measure to my successor.

"I am most anxious that there should be no delay of any kind

in giving effect to the Instrument which I have executed, and that all necessary steps should be taken immediately to secure that my lawful successor, my brother, His Royal Highness the Duke of York, should ascend the Throne.

“EDWARD R.I.”

When this message had been read, Mr. Baldwin rose. He said:

“I beg to move: That His Majesty’s most gracious message be now considered.

“No more grave message has ever been received by Parliament, and no more difficult—I may almost say repugnant—task has ever been imposed upon a Minister. I would ask the House, which I know will not be without sympathy for one in my position to-day, to remember that in this last week I have had but little time in which to compose a speech for delivery to-day, so I must tell what I have to tell truthfully, sincerely, and plainly, with no attempt to dress up or to adorn.

“I shall have little or nothing to say in the way of comment or criticism or of praise or of blame. I think my best course to-day, and the one that the House would desire, is to tell them so far as I can what has passed between His Majesty and myself, and what led up to the present situation. I should like to say at the start that His Majesty as Prince of Wales has honoured me for many years with a friendship which I value, and I know that he would agree with me in saying to you that it was not only a friendship, but, between man and man, a friendship of affection. I would like to tell the House when I begin that when we said ‘good-bye’ on Tuesday night at Fort Belvedere we both knew and felt and said to each other that that friendship, so far from being impaired by the discussions of this last week, bound us more closely together than ever, and would last for life.

Mr. Baldwin then went on to give an account of his various conversations with the King. When he came back from his holiday in October two things disquieted him. A vast volume of correspondence was coming into his office, all expressing uneasiness at what was then appearing in the American Press. He was aware also that in the near future a divorce case was coming on which might result in a difficult situation. He felt it essential that someone should warn the King of what might arise if this kind of gossip and criticism continued and spread from the other side of the Atlantic to this country. He first saw the King on October 20, when he told His Majesty that he had two great

anxieties: the first was the effect that this kind of criticism would have in the Dominions and particularly in Canada and in this country; then he reminded the King of what he had often told him and his brothers in years past: that the British monarchy was a unique institution. The Crown in this country through the centuries has been deprived of many of its prerogatives, but to-day, while that is true, it stands for far more than it ever has done in its history. But while this feeling largely depends on the respect for the monarchy that has grown up in the last three generations, it might not take so long, in face of the kind of criticism to which it was being exposed, to lose that power far more rapidly than it was built up, and, once lost, he doubted if anything could restore it.

The next time Mr. Baldwin saw the King was on Monday, November 16, at Buckingham Palace. By this time the decree *nisi* had been pronounced in the divorce case. Mr. Baldwin told the King that he did not think that particular marriage was one that would receive the approbation of the country. It would have involved the lady becoming Queen. He pointed out that the position of the King's wife was different from the position of the wife of any other citizen in the country; it was part of the price which the King has to pay. His wife becomes Queen; the Queen becomes the Queen of the country; and therefore in the choice of a Queen the voice of the people must be heard.

"Then," Mr. Baldwin continued, "His Majesty said to me—I have his permission to state this—that he wanted to tell me something that he had long wanted to tell me. He said, 'I am going to marry Mrs. Simpson, and I am prepared to go.' I said, 'Sir, that is most grievous news, and it is impossible for me to make any comment on that to-day.' He told the Queen that night; he told the Duke of York and the Duke of Gloucester the next day, and the Duke of Kent, who was out of London, either on the Wednesday or the Thursday; and for the rest of the week, so far as I know, he was considering the point."

The King next sent for him on Wednesday, November 25. In the meantime it had been suggested as a possible compromise that the King should marry and that an Act of Parliament should be passed enabling the lady to be the King's wife without the position of Queen. The King asked whether this proposition had been put to Mr. Baldwin, and he replied that it had. The King asked him informally his first reaction to this suggestion. Mr. Baldwin replied that Parliament would never pass such a Bill, but if he desired it he would examine it formally.

It would mean putting the question formally before the whole Cabinet and communicating with the Prime Ministers of all the Dominions. The King asked Mr. Baldwin to do this. On December 2 the King again asked him to come and see him. Then the King asked if he could answer his question. Mr. Baldwin replied that his inquiries had shown that neither in the Dominions nor here would there be any prospect of such legislation being accepted. When this conversation was finished Mr. Baldwin pointed out that the possible alternatives had been narrowed and that the King had now been placed in a grievous situation between two conflicting loyalties in his own heart: either complete abandonment of the project on which his heart was set, and remaining as King; or doing as he had intimated that he was prepared to do, going, and later on contracting the marriage if it were possible.

Mr. Baldwin went on, "The House must remember, and it is difficult to realise, that His Majesty is not a boy. He looks so young, and we have all thought of him as our Prince; but he is a mature man, with wide and great experience of life and the world. And he always had before him three, nay, four, things which in these conversations at all hours he repeated again and again. The first was that if he went he would go with dignity. He would not allow a situation to arise in which he could not do that. He wanted to go with as little disturbance of his Ministers and his people as possible. He wished to go in circumstances that would make the succession of his brother as little difficult for his brother as possible. And I may say that any idea to him of what might be called a 'King's party' was abhorrent. He stayed down at Fort Belvedere because he said that he was not going to come to London while these things were in dispute, because of the cheering crowds. I honour and respect him for the way in which he behaved at that time."

During these last days the efforts of himself and those most closely around the King had been directed to try to help him make the choice which he had not made, and they had failed. While there was not a soul amongst them who would not regret this from the bottom of his heart, there was no one who wished to judge. The King had announced his decision, he had said what he wanted them to do, and they must close their ranks and do it. Yesterday, Mr. Baldwin continued, when the Cabinet received the King's final and definite answer officially, they passed a Minute hoping that before the King's resolve was

irrevocable he would reconsider his intention, but to this communication the King's answer was that he was unable to alter his decision.

"My last words on that subject," Mr. Baldwin concluded, "are that I am convinced that where I failed no one could have succeeded. His mind was made up, and those who know His Majesty best will know what that means. This House to-day is a theatre which is being watched by the whole world. Let us conduct ourselves with that dignity which His Majesty is showing in his hour of trial.

"Whatever be our regrets at the contents of the message, let us fulfil his wishes to do what he asks, and to do it with speed. Let no word be spoken to-day that the utterer of that word may regret in days to come. Let no word be spoken which causes pain to any soul. Let us not forget to-day the revered and beloved figure of Queen Mary but think of her if speak we must during this debate.

"We have, after all, as the guardians of democracy in this little island, to see that we do our work to maintain the integrity of that democracy and the monarchy which, as I said at the beginning of my speech, is now the sole link of our whole Empire and the guardian of our freedom. Let us look forward, and remember our country, and the trust reposed by our country in this, the House of Commons, and let us rally behind the new King, stand behind him, help him. Let us hope that, whatever the country may have suffered by what we are passing through, it may soon be repaired, and that we may take what steps we can in trying to make a better country for all the people."

After Mr. Baldwin had spoken, the House adjourned until 6 o'clock. When the House reassembled, Mr. Attlee paid a warm tribute to King Edward VIII, in whom the poor had lost a good friend. He wished the King peace and happiness, and also promised the new King every possible help in a difficult task. Both Mr. Attlee and Sir Archibald Sinclair, who spoke next, praised the way in which Mr. Baldwin had borne unprecedented responsibility.

Mr. Winston Churchill then spoke. He said that what was done was done and should be now left to history. He now accepted the Prime Minister's declaration that the King had not been hurried in his decision, but had taken it freely, voluntarily, spontaneously, in his own time, and in his own way. Then he said, "In this Prince there were discerned qualities of courage, of simplicity, of sympathy, and, above all, of sincerity rare and

precious, which might have made his reign glorious in the annals of this ancient monarchy. It is the acme of tragedy that those very virtues should in the private sphere have led only to this melancholy and bitter conclusion. But although our hopes to-day lie withered, still, I would assert that his personality will not go down uncherished to future ages, that it will be particularly remembered in the homes of his poorer subjects, and that they will ever wish from the bottom of their hearts for his private peace and happiness and for the happiness of those who are dear to him."

Mr. Maxton spoke next, sympathising with the Prime Minister, but concluding that the lesson of the past few days was that the monarchical institution had outlived its usefulness. After Colonel Wedgwood, Mr. Gallacher next spoke. He spoke of sinister forces at work operating, advising, encouraging what was going on. "I want to make it understood," he said, "that we have here not an issue between the King and Parliament, for Parliament has never been consulted from beginning to end—interviews, secret and otherwise, but Parliament not consulted, and the forces operating—two forces fighting with one another on this issue, as they have been fighting continually on every important issue that has come on foreign policy. I am concerned with the working class. I see terrible dangers arising. There is not an honourable member here who, if he asks himself the question, believes that this finishes the crisis, and that the forces which have been operating behind this will now stop. There is victory for one group at the moment, but the forces will go on.

"Every member of the Cabinet knows that the social set of Mrs. Simpson is closely identified with a certain foreign Government, and the Ambassador of that foreign Government. It is common knowledge, and round this issue is the issue that is continually arising when other debates come on. I say it is not an issue between the King and Parliament; it is an issue between two groups which are fighting continually for domination, and it is a thousand pities that the Labour movement should show any signs of falling into the trap. The only hope for the working class is that the Labour movement should adopt an independent policy, pursue it against these groups, and accept the proposal of Mr. Maxton and finish with it all."

THE DEATH OF LUIGI PIRANDELLO

Luigi Pirandello, the dramatist, died in Rome at the age of sixty-nine.

Friday 11

THE ABDICATION

The Abdication Bill was passed to-day at 1.52 p.m., and simultaneously the Duke of York succeeds his brother as King. He will take the title of King George VI. In the evening the new King and the former King dined at Royal Lodge, Windsor. With them were Queen Mary, the Duke of Gloucester, the Princess Royal, Princess Alice, and the Earl of Athlone. After dinner the former King drove to Windsor Castle and at 10 p.m. he broadcast a message to the Empire:

"At long last I am able to say a few words of my own. I have never wanted to withhold anything, but until now it has not been constitutionally possible for me to speak.

"A few hours ago I discharged my last duty as King and Emperor, and now that I have been succeeded by my brother, the Duke of York, my first words must be to declare my allegiance to him. 'This I do with all my heart.

"You all know the reasons which have impelled me to renounce the Throne. But I want you to understand that in making up my mind I did not forget the country or the Empire which as Prince of Wales, and lately as King, I have for twenty-five years tried to serve. But you must believe me when I tell you that I have found it impossible to carry the heavy burden of responsibility and to discharge my duties as King as I would wish to do without the help and support of the woman I love.

"And I want you to know that the decision I have made has been mine and mine alone. 'This was a thing I had to judge entirely for myself. The other person most nearly concerned has tried up to the last to persuade me to take a different course. I have made this, the most serious decision of my life, only upon the single thought of what would in the end be best for all.

"This decision has been made less difficult to me by the sure knowledge that my brother, with his long training in the public affairs of this country and with his fine qualities, will be able to take my place forthwith, without interruption or injury to the life and progress of the Empire. And he has one matchless blessing, enjoyed by so many of you and not bestowed on me—a happy home with his wife and children.

"During these hard days I have been comforted by Her Majesty my mother and by my family. The Ministers of the Crown, and in particular Mr. Baldwin, the Prime Minister, have always treated me with full consideration. 'There has never

been any constitutional difference between me and them and between me and Parliament. Bred in the constitutional tradition by my father, I should never have allowed such an issue to arise.

"Ever since I was Prince of Wales, and later on when I occupied the Throne, I have been treated with the greatest kindness by all classes of the people, wherever I have lived or journeyed throughout the Empire. For that I am very grateful.

"I now quit altogether public affairs, and I lay down my burden. It may be some time before I return to my native land, but I shall always follow the fortunes of the British race and Empire with profound interest, and if at any time in the future I can be found of service to His Majesty in a private station I shall not fail.

"And now we all have a new King. I wish him, and you, his people, happiness and prosperity with all my heart. God bless you all. God Save the King."

Queen Mary has also issued a message to the people of this nation and the Empire:

"I have been so deeply touched by the sympathy which has surrounded me at this time of anxiety that I must send a message of gratitude from the depth of my heart. The sympathy and affection which sustained me in my great sorrow less than a year ago have not failed me now, and are once again my strength and stay.

"I need not speak to you of the distress which fills a mother's heart when I think that my dear son has deemed it to be his duty to lay down his charge, and that the reign which had begun with so much hope and promise has so suddenly ended. I know that you will realise what it has cost him to come to this decision; and that, remembering the years in which he tried so eagerly to serve and help his country and Empire, you will ever keep a grateful remembrance of him in your hearts.

"I commend to you his brother, summoned so unexpectedly and in circumstances so painful to take his place. I ask you to give to him the same full measure of generous loyalty which you gave to my beloved husband, and which you would willingly have continued to give to his brother.

"With him I commend my dear daughter-in-law who will be his Queen. May she receive the same unfailing affection and trust which you have given to me for six and twenty years. I know that you have already taken her children to your hearts.

"It is my earnest prayer that, in spite of, nay through, this

present trouble, the loyalty and unity of our land and Empire may by God's blessing be maintained and strengthened. May He bless and keep and guide you always.

"MARY R."

Saturday 12

KING GEORGE VI PROCLAIMED

A special meeting of the Privy Council was held this morning, and the new King said:

"Your Royal Highnesses, My Lords and Gentlemen:

"I meet you to-day in circumstances which are without parallel in the history of our country. Now that the duties of sovereignty have fallen to me, I declare to you my adherence to the strict principles of constitutional government, and my resolve to work before all else for the welfare of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

"With my wife as helpmeet by my side, I take up the heavy task which lies before me. In it I look for the support of all my peoples.

"Furthermore, my first act on succeeding my brother will be to confer on him a dukedom, and he will henceforth be known as His Royal Highness the Duke of Windsor."

The Accession Proclamation was then signed and afterwards publicly proclaimed first at St. James's, then at Charing Cross, at Temple Bar, and in the City.

PARLIAMENT SWORN IN.

A special session of both Houses was held this afternoon for members to be sworn in to the new King.

THE DUKE OF WINDSOR

The former King drove late on Friday night down to Portsmouth, and about two o'clock this morning he went on board the destroyer *Fury*. All was quiet in Portsmouth when he arrived in darkness, and even the crew of the *Fury* did not know where they were going or for whom they were waiting. Members of the Royal suite were the first to reach the dockyard, together with great piles of luggage, which was placed on board the destroyer. Three-quarters of an hour later the late King's car drove through the main gates and was held up by two dock policemen. A whispered word and it continued towards the jetty, where the destroyer was ready to cast off. Within half an hour she was at sea.

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Sunday 13

A BROADCAST BY
THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY

Most of the clergy of all denominations spoke in their pulpits of the events of the last week. In the evening the Archbishop of Canterbury broadcast an address from the B.B.C. He spoke first of the steadiness of the Empire in this crisis. Then he went on:

"What pathos, nay, what tragedy, surrounds the central figure of these swiftly moving scenes! On the 11th day of December, 248 years ago, King James II fled from Whitehall. By a strange coincidence, on the 11th day of December last week King Edward VIII, after speaking his last words to his people, left Windsor Castle, the centre of all the splendid traditions of his ancestors and his Throne, and went out an exile. In the darkness he left these shores.

"Seldom, if ever, has any British sovereign come to the Throne with greater natural gifts for his Kingship. Seldom, if ever, has any sovereign been welcomed by a more enthusiastic loyalty. From God he received a high and sacred trust. Yet by his own will he has abdicated—he has surrendered the trust. With characteristic frankness he has told us his motive. It was a craving for private happiness. Strange and sad it must be that for such a motive, however strongly it pressed upon his heart, he should have disappointed hopes so high and abandoned a trust so great. Even more strange and sad it is that he should have sought his happiness in a manner inconsistent with the Christian principles of marriage, and within a social circle whose standards and ways of life are alien to all the best instincts and traditions of his people. Let those who belong to this circle know that to-day they stand rebuked by the judgment of the nation which had loved King Edward. I have shrunk from saying these words. But I have felt compelled for the sake of sincerity and truth to say them.

"Yet for one who has known him since his childhood, who has felt his charm and admired his gifts, these words cannot be the last. How can we forget the high hopes and promise of his youth; his most genuine care for the poor, the suffering, the unemployed; his years of eager service both at home and across the sea? It is the remembrance of these things that wrings from our heart the cry, 'The pity of it. Oh, the pity of it!' To the infinite mercy and the protecting care of God we commit him now, wherever he may be."

Next he spoke of the very great sympathy felt for Queen

Mary, and then of the new King and his family and of the meaning of the Coronation ceremony.

THE DUKE OF WINDSOR

The Duke of Windsor, accompanied by Colonel Piers Legh, arrived at Vienna at 10.15 to-night. He was received by the British Minister, Sir Walford Selby, and by the chief of the Vienna police. The public knew nothing of his arrival. Later he left for Enzesfeld, the country house of Baron Eugene de Rothschild, where he is to stay for some time.

CHINA: GENERAL CHIANG KAI-SHEK KIDNAPPED

General Chiang Kai-shek, the Nanking generalissimo and Prime Minister, has been taken prisoner by mutineers at Sianfu. His captor is Marshal Chang Hsueh-liang, at one time Commander of the anti-Communist forces. He declares that his object is to form a new Government and to declare war on the Japanese in which Manchurian troops would co-operate. They would then win back all the Chinese territory, including Manchuria. Until this policy is accepted he will hold the generalissimo prisoner.

Monday 14

KING GEORGE VI

In both Houses of Parliament to-day a message from the King was read:

"I have succeeded to the Throne in circumstances which are without precedent and at a moment of great personal distress, but I am resolved to do my duty, and I am sustained by the knowledge that I am supported by the widespread goodwill and sympathy of all my subjects here and throughout the world.

"It will be my constant endeavour, with God's help, supported as I shall be by my dear wife, to uphold the honour of the realm and to promote the happiness of my peoples."

Mr. Baldwin, moving the loyal address, touched upon "circumstances that are without precedent," and went on to assure the House that the King's reference to a "moment of great personal distress" was no exaggeration or mere formal phrase. Nothing would endear the new King to his people so much as the fact that, more than any of his brothers, he resembled his father in character and disposition of mind. He would show the same devotion to duty, and no personal predilection would be allowed to stand between him and the performance of his great task as King and Emperor.

The House and the country, Mr. Baldwin went on, would give the King all the support which he asked when he was entering on his tremendous responsibility. Above all things, the integrity of the monarchy required that it should be kept free from controversy, whether political or otherwise, and the character of the new King gave full assurance of that freedom. "It only remains for me," Mr. Baldwin concluded, "as Leader of this House, to wish His Majesty, if I may, God-speed on this great undertaking, and I look forward during to-morrow, with my colleagues from all parties in the House, to bringing him assurances of our goodwill and our support and our fervent prayers for his happiness."

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY

To-day is the King's forty-first birthday, but by his wish there was no official celebration except for the usual salutes which were fired at the Tower.

CORONATION SOUVENIRS

When it became known that King Edward was likely to abdicate, manufacturers preparing souvenirs for his Coronation were greatly disturbed, but now so keen are collectors to secure some of the more expensive Coronation pottery bearing the portrait of King Edward VIII that some firms have not only sold out their stocks, but are continuing manufacture. They are now preparing for the Coronation of King George and Queen Elizabeth.

FORT BELVEDERE

Officials from the Lord Chamberlain's department have begun to make arrangements for the removal of some of the furniture from the Fort. Much of it will be taken back to the private apartment at Windsor Castle.

"THE BOY DAVID"

Sir James Barrie's play *The Boy David* was produced at His Majesty's Theatre, with Miss Elisabeth Bergner as David and Mr. Godfrey Tearle as Saul. Critics are cautious. While they praise Mr. Tearle's Saul as always vital and alive, they find some difficulty in the interpretation of David as a visionary, sexless child.

Tuesday 15

THE LOYAL ADDRESS

The Loyal Addresses from both Houses of Parliament were presented to King George VI at Buckingham Palace. In reply he said:

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"Gentlemen, may I add that I am sure that I can count on your sympathy in the sad circumstances in which I have acceded to the Throne.

"I have suffered a very real loss by the decision of my brother, for, by his going, I am deprived of a close friendship which I valued highly.

"However, the fact that I have received this address at the hands of many old friends fills me with encouragement for the future."

THE CHINESE COUP

Mr. W. H. Donald, Adviser to General Chiang Kai-shek, flew to Sianfu and has now returned. He said that General Chiang Kai-shek had refused to see General Chang Hsueh-liang since his arrest.

MADRID

There has been another lull for some days in the fighting outside Madrid. It is bitterly cold, and the distress of the people is very evident. Underfeeding is general, for bread and rice are the only diet of a great number.

Wednesday 16

THE B.B.C.

The Board appointed by the Prime Minister to inquire into certain statements made in the case of *Lambert v. Levita* report that, without finding either the B.B.C. or Mr. Lambert entirely blameless in every step which was taken, they dispose completely of the suggestion that members of the Corporation were consciously exercising unfair pressure on Mr. Lambert to deter him from the exercise of his legal rights.

SPAIN

Bad weather in Spain still prevents much active fighting, but there has been a good deal of air-bombing. The Government forces have made some advance in their attack on Oviedo.

Thursday 17

PARLIAMENT

The House of Commons to-day discussed the B.B.C., which Mr. Lees-Smith strongly attacked. He claimed that, though Parliament controlled policy and not details of programmes, the B.B.C. paid far too little attention to Parliamentary hints. He thought there was both favouritism and terrorism in the British Broadcasting Corporation administration. His friends on the staff even feared that their letters might be opened, and the atmosphere was morbid and unhealthy. He suggested that with the assistance of the civil service the B.B.C. should hold

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an inquiry into questions of introducing security of tenure and regular promotion into their staff arrangements. When Mr. Lees-Smith raised the question of the new Charter, Major Tryon, Postmaster-General, replied that the report on the B.B.C. should be considered as a whole, and defended the extension of the charter for ten years. The B.B.C., he said, had made good, and the proof was that 8,000,000 licences are taken out, in spite of criticisms. The system was at least better than elsewhere, where advertisements raged and Government propaganda was obligatory. The principles of the Charter had not been disturbed by the Lambert case. Lieutenant-Colonel Spender-Clay said that, while realising the desirability of the staff of the B.B.C. having security of tenure, he could not help thinking that if that were carried too far things might become stereotyped. They did not wish the B.B.C. to be hemmed in by rules and regulations. He had been fed up with these talks of staff treatment. He had no personal interest in any of the staff employed, and deemed these pinpricks unworthy of the work done by the B.B.C. The talks on the wireless were admirable. Some might think them dull, but they were very instructive. He was afraid that the effect of complaints might be that the B.B.C. might try to play for safety to avoid trouble, and that the broadcasts would then be dull and colourless. Last night he heard a singularly dreary broadcast.

ABYSSINIA

Ras Imru has surrendered to the Italians with his men after an engagement on the banks of the River Gogeb. Now only Ras Desta remains to lead an army against the Italians in the field.

T. E. LAWRENCE'S BOOK

T. E. Lawrence's book, *The Mint*, has been published in New York by Doubleday, Doran & Co. in an edition limited to twelve copies, of which two are in the Congressional Library at Washington. The price of the remaining ten is 500,000 dollars (£100,000). Under the terms of Lawrence's will, the book is not to be generally published until 1950. *The Mint*, "by 352087 A/C Ross," the name under which Lawrence enlisted in the R.A.F. in 1922, is a book of about 200 pages giving an account of his life at the R.A.F. depot at Uxbridge after his enlistment fourteen years ago as an aircraftman. He describes his own experiences as a recruit and his feelings when, destitute after abandoning his post of political adviser to the Colonial Office, he appeared at the recruiting office in August 1922. Thence the

book continues in the form of a diary which reproduces without evasion of language the thoughts of his companions and himself.

CHINA

Negotiations are still going on between General Chang Hsueh-liang, "the Young Marshal," and the Nanking Government. They are preparing to attack the "Young Marshal." Aeroplanes belonging to the Government are continually circling over the city of Sianfu.

Friday 18

PARLIAMENT

The House met to-day for the last time before the Christmas holidays. Captain Macnamara and Mr. W. Roberts, who have recently visited Spain, gave their impressions of the civil war and of the feeling of the Spaniards. Captain Macnamara said that General Franco's army of 20,000 to 30,000 men was hanging on to the western outskirts of Madrid. It was composed mainly of Moorish troops who were suffering severely with the wintry conditions. They had very good evidence that Russian aeroplanes and tanks were being supplied to the Spanish Government and were being piloted by Russian aviators and mechanics, but they did not see Russian soldiers in any large number in Madrid. Behind General Franco's lines, so far as they could get information, there did not seem to be much spontaneity to join his colours, because of the Germans and other foreigners fighting on Spanish territory. With regard to horrors, he would say quite definitely that he did not think there was twopence to choose between the two sides. Both sides were fighting this war brutally and ruthlessly. There was no respect for the Red Cross. Prisoners were shot, hostages were slaughtered, and the wounded were murdered in the hospitals when captured. He believed that both the Government of Madrid and of General Franco were doing their best to put an end to these horrors.

Mr. Eden claimed that the policy of non-intervention, in spite of admitted shortcomings and blatant breaches, had reduced the risk of a European war. It might be said that the French and British Governments had exaggerated the risk of war last autumn, but it was better to exaggerate than to overlook the risks. They would not desist from their attempts to secure mediation in the conflict which they believed would ultimately be rewarded.

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THE CORONATION

It is announced that King George VI has chosen the same date—12 May, 1937—as had been proclaimed for the Coronation of King Edward VIII.

ABYSSINIA

An Italian column has reached Gambela, a customs post on the Sudan frontier. Details of a gallant action have now been received. After the defeat of Dedjasmach Nasibu in May, the Italians learnt that a Swedish Mission stationed at Chulul was being attacked by roving bands of Abyssinians. An Italian aeroplane left Jijiga, carrying a pilot and Captain Cannonieri. The mission was found and a message dropped, but the aeroplane was obliged to make a forced landing, in which Captain Cannonieri's leg was badly hurt. The two men, however, managed to reach the station, and immediately began to organise its defences. Italian aeroplanes flew almost daily over Chulul (which lies at a height of 6,000 feet in a valley about 200 miles south-west of Harar and is difficult of access), dropping supplies and messages to the two Italians, five sisters, and missionaries, five foreigners of various nationalities, and a group of native helpers besieged in the station and defending themselves by a machine gun fired against hostile bands which had assembled in the neighbourhood. At the end of August a wireless operator made a successful descent with a portable receiving and transmitting set, and thus the occupants of the station were able to keep in touch with the outside world. The siege has lasted since 9 July.

M. TROTSKY

The Mexican Government have granted M. Trotsky permission to live in Mexico, provided that he complies with the law and refrains from Communist activities. His permission to remain in Norway has now expired and will not be renewed.

Saturday 19

THE CORONATION

The Coronation was proclaimed in bright sunshine with the usual ceremonies.

THE SECOND TEST MATCH

England started well in the second Test Match, and at the end of the second day had secured 426 for six wickets, at which they declared their innings closed.

COTTON STRIKE AVERTED

The threatened strike over wages in the spinning section of the cotton industry was averted just before midnight, when

representatives of the Master Cotton Spinners and the men came to an agreement whereby the majority of the workers received a minimum advance of about 1s. 1½*d.* in the £ on their present wages. This is two-thirds of the advance originally demanded, and affects over 100,000 workers.

Sunday 20

SPAIN

In Madrid there has been comparative quiet. The Government troops have indulged in anti-Mass shelling, bombarding the insurgent lines at the hour when Mass is normally celebrated. The fighting round Oviedo is bitter. The insurgents are attempting to capture Olivares, a small suburb which the Government forces recently took.

PRINCESS JULIANA BETROTHED

Princess Juliana and Prince Bernhard of Lippe-Biesterfeld signed their names in the offices of the Registrar of Marriages in the Hague Town Hall, thus confirming their betrothal. The day was observed as a holiday in the Hague. The marriage ceremony is to be held on 7 January.

AN EARTHQUAKE IN MEXICO

The town of San Vicente in Mexico has been destroyed by an earthquake and more than 200 persons killed.

Monday 21

ANOTHER GIFT FROM LORD NUFFIELD

Lord Nuffield has now given £2,000,000 for the assistance of the Special Areas. This sum is placed at the disposal of trustees, who will have full discretion to use the capital of the trust to initiate or support measures likely to give employment.

ANGLO-ITALIAN RELATIONS

The British decision to withdraw the British Legation in Addis Ababa and to substitute for it a Consulate General has been officially announced to Count Ciano. The decision is well received in Rome as a *de facto* recognition of the Italian conquest.

JEWS FLOGGED IN TRIPOLI

About a month ago the Provincial Commission of Tripoli ordered that all shops, without distinction, must remain open on all days of the week except Sunday. The Jews had gradually been securing many of the best shops in the newly built quarters of the town, but the closing of Jewish shops on Saturdays had

apparently caused dissatisfaction to the non-Jewish population. The heads of the Jewish community visited Marshal Balbo, Governor of Libya, to protest that the Sabbath rest was of great importance to the Jews. He replied that those who wanted to persist in their old ways could do so in perfect freedom by abandoning the new city and returning within the old walls. Many Jewish proprietors obeyed the order, but some continued to close their shops as before or else opened them without selling goods. This disobedience of the new regulations would have passed without comment had not the Grand Rabbi of Jerusalem appealed for prayers for the Tripoli Jews. On 8 December three offending Jews were arrested. Two of them were flogged in a public square, receiving ten blows from a whip; the third, owing to his poor physical state, was not whipped, but sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

A FRENCH AIRWOMAN'S ADVENTURES

Madame Irene Schmeder, a young French airwoman, crashed in the marshes near Selsey, in Sussex, at dusk last night. Earlier in the day she was flying near Villa-Coubly in France with M. Pierre Lallemand, who was piloting the machine. Suddenly he felt a violent blow on the back of his neck. Although weak and dizzy, he made a good landing and, scrambling out of the seat, hailed a passing motorist and was taken to hospital. Immediately afterwards the machine took off again and disappeared. On being examined, M. Lallemand was found to have a bullet lodged in his neck. Madame Schmeder's landing attracted some attention. A police constable and a farmer hurried to the place where the machine was wrecked and found that the pilot was a woman. They helped her out and found her to be suffering badly from shock, but otherwise unhurt. She was taken to Mill Farm, near Selsey, and put to bed and a doctor sent for. Madame Schmeder said she did not know where she was landing and was surprised to find herself in England. A demand for her extradition is expected.

A NEW INN

A new inn in modern architectural style has been opened near Hatfield, where the Great North Road turns off to St. Albans. It is called the Comet, in memory of the machine in which Scott and Campbell Black won the air race to Australia. The inn itself is designed (more or less) in the shape of an aeroplane. In front stands a conspicuous sign—an 18-foot pylon topped by a red metal model of the original Comet.

21-23 December

THE TEST MATCH

The Australian innings started very badly, with three wickets down for one run, O'Brien, Bradman, and McCabe all being out for a duck.

Tuesday 22

SPAIN

The war in Spain, now in its fifth month, instead of abating, is becoming more acute. Both sides receive equipment, arms, and men from abroad. Murder on both sides continues unabated. In Madrid on 5 December there were eight corpses on the Ronda. On 18 November seven surviving nuns living quietly in a flat, duly registered and known to the police, were taken away. Two days later their bodies were identified and photographs of the corpses filed at the Dead Office. A person living on the outskirts of Madrid has counted over 125 corpses within sight of his hall door since July. Nor are the insurgents backward. The Government has issued a list of 105 names of liberals, masons, and priests who have been shot without trial solely for their anti-Fascist sympathies. It includes seven mayors, three ex-mayors, three civil governors, a military governor, the Chief Justice of Catalonia, three professors, including the Rector of Granada University, fifteen Catholic priests, three protestant pastors, and the poet and dramatist Señor Garcia Lorca.

CHINA

Madame Chiang Kai-shek has flown to Sianfu to join her husband. This is taken to indicate that there is little personal risk for her and that the prospects of a settlement are favourable.

THE TEST MATCH

England have won the second Test Match by an innings and 22 runs. After declaring at 426 for six wickets, the English bowlers dismissed the Australians in the first innings for 80 and in the second for 324.

THE NORTH-WEST FRONTIER

There has been further fighting on the North-West Frontier. One British officer has been killed and one wounded.

Wednesday 23

THE BABY PANDA

A baby panda called Sun-Lin, captured by Mrs. William Harkness, has now arrived in New York from San Francisco. It travelled in a special compartment, and left the railway

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station followed by porters carrying baskets, blankets, and food-supply, which is considerable, because of her voracious appetite. When the creature had been installed in a hotel room at an appropriately low temperature, reporters were admitted. She was feeding from a bottle containing a mixture of powdered milk, cod liver oil, and syrup. When the panda is weaned she will require ten to twelve pounds of fresh bamboo shoots daily. At full growth a panda weighs nearly twenty-two stone.

Thursday 24

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM MR. LLOYD GEORGE

Mr. Lloyd George, who is on holiday in Jamaica, telegraphed his Christmas greetings to the Duke of Windsor:

"Best Christmas greetings from an old Minister of the Crown who holds you in as high esteem as ever and regards you with deeper loyal affection, deplores the shabby and stupid treatment accorded to you, resents the mean and unchivalrous attacks upon you, and regrets the loss sustained by the British Empire of a monarch who sympathised with the lowliest of his subjects."

Friday 25

THE ROYAL FAMILY AT SANDRINGHAM

Hundreds of people crowded to greet King George and Queen Elizabeth when they walked to morning service at Sandringham Church on Christmas Day with their two children, Lady Mary Cambridge, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, Princess Alice, and the Earl of Athlone. On their return to Sandringham House the party enjoyed an old English Christmas dinner of Sandringham-fed beef, Norfolk turkey, and plum pudding. Afterwards the little Princesses were taken into the ballroom, and at a touch of the switch by the King a great Christmas-tree was spangled with coloured lights. Members of the household staff shared in the gifts from the tree.

THE DUKE OF WINDSOR'S CHRISTMAS

The Duke of Windsor came into Vienna from Enzesfeld for the first time since his arrival in Austria. He attended service at the English Church and read the Second Lesson. Afterwards he took lunch at the British Legation with Sir Walford and Lady Selby.

THE DUCHESS OF KENT

The Duchess of Kent gave birth to a daughter at 11.20 a.m. Shortly before, Sir John Simon, the Home Secretary, was

summoned to Belgrave Square. It is a constitutional practice that the Home Secretary must be present at a Royal birth.

Saturday 26

THE POPE'S CHRISTMAS BROADCAST

The Pope's general health is as satisfactory as can be expected, although he still suffers from severe pains in his left leg. The strain of delivering a Christmas broadcast weakened him. He spoke from his bed for twenty minutes, and passed rapidly in review the situation in the world, declaring that the sorrowful note which this year is mingled with the joys of Christmas is even more profound and depressing because of the fact that there still rages, with all its horror of hatred, carnage, and destruction, a civil war in Spain; there it seems that evil forces have wished to make a supreme experiment of all the destructive forces scattered throughout the world which they have at their command. Then he went on to make a vigorous attack in the opposite direction:

"Among those, moreover, who pretend to be the defenders of order against subversism, of civilisation against the spread of atheist Communism—nay, but in this defence claim for themselves leadership—-we see with sorrow not a few allowing themselves to be dominated and be guided by false and fatal ideas, both in their choice of remedies and in the appraisal of their adversaries. False and fatal, we say, for whosoever seeks to lessen or stamp out in the hearts of men, and especially in the hearts of the young, faith in Christ and His Divine Revelation; whosoever seeks to portray the Church of Christ, custodian of the Divine promises, and by Divine mandate the teacher of peoples, as the avowed enemy of national prosperity and progress, such a one is not only no builder of a prosperous future for humanity and his own country, but, on the contrary, he is destroying the most effective and decisive means of defence against the dreaded evils, and he is even, though he know it not, working with those against whom he believes and boasts that he is fighting."

SUBMARINE WARFARE IN SPAIN

A submarine attack against the Barcelona coast is reported. Fishermen saw the firing of the torpedo about 5 o'clock in the morning. It landed a short distance from the lighthouse, but did not explode, as the propeller was stopped by sand. The torpedo is described as of Italian make, about eight feet in length and weighing two tons.

27 December

Sunday 27

A RECALL TO RELIGION

The Archbishop of Canterbury broadcast from Lambeth Palace a recall to religion.

In our national history, he said, the year that is going can never be forgotten. But its most recent and vivid memories had better now be kept in silence. There can be no doubt, he continued, as to the need of such a recall to the Christian religion. In Russia a vast community was being poisoned by an aggressive atheism and by a doctrine of class warfare which is anti-Christian, and we must be vigilant to prevent the poison infecting our own people. In other countries the menace was less open, but more insidious. There, even in the name of religion, the idols of race and state are usurping the supremacy of Christ. In our own nation there is beyond question a drift away from religion. "It is natural," he said, "almost inevitable. Consider the all-pervading influence of a secular civilisation, so complete, so rich in the resources of science, that it seems to be all-sufficing. Consider the influence of the new scientific outlook on the universe and on man's life within it which seems to see no place for a personal God, or for the inherent worth of the human soul. Consider, perhaps most of all, the ever-increasing haste and hurry and distraction of modern life. God is not so much denied as merely crowded out. Just as when Christ came on the first Christmas Day there was no room for Him in the inn, so now there is no room for Him in the noise and bustle of the hostelry of modern life.

"Moreover, all this brings a slackening, sometimes even a scorning, of the old standards of Christian morality. We see it, for example, in the loosening of the ties of marriage or of restraint upon the impulses of sex. Well may we ask, 'Whither is this drift carrying us?' It may carry us to judgment. How often brilliant gifts fail to bear their fruit unless they have their roots in religious faith and moral principle! So the manifold gifts which God has bestowed upon our nation and Empire—such as the great gifts of order and freedom—will fail to fulfil their purpose unless they are deep-rooted in the faith and fear of God."

Could there, he continued, be a more timely occasion for such a recall than the coming Coronation year? Within five months, please God, our King would be consecrated to his high office, but as representative of the nation he must bear his people with him. The august ceremony would be bereft of its full meaning; it would be a mere spectacle unless the nation with its King consecrated itself to the remembrance and service of God.

THE PRESIDENT OF CUBA DEPOSED

After seven months and three days in office, Dr. Gomez, the Cuban President, was found guilty by the Senate Tribunal by twenty-two votes to twelve. He was charged with impeding the passage by the House of a Bill to establish a tax on sugar, the money to be used for civic and military schools sponsored by Colonel Batista, Chief of the General Staff; secondly, with directly coercing men by threatening to veto measures passed by Congress. The Vice-President, Dr. Laredo Bru, automatically assumes the Presidency, and was sworn in at noon.

MR. GANDHI

Mr. Gandhi has made his first political address since he retired from active politics in 1934. He was addressing 10,000 listeners at a Village Industries Exhibition at Faizpur.

"Show me the way," he said, "and I am prepared to go back to jail again, and I am prepared to be hanged. I feel that Jawarhalal Nehru would be equally prepared to be hanged.

"If you do all that I want you to do, Lord Linlithgow will say: 'I am wrong. I thought you people were terrorists, and, if you like, we Britishers will go back in the next steamer.' We would then say to Lord Linlithgow and the Britishers, 'India is big enough to hold you, and more like you.' That is my *Swaraj*."

A HAPPY ENDING IN CHINA

General Chiang Kai-shek was released by General Hsueh-liang on Christmas Day. With Madame Chiang Kai-shek, Mr. T. V. Soong, and Mr. W. H. Donald, his adviser, he reached Nanking by air on the 26th, where they were enthusiastically received. Whatever may be thought of the generalissimo's action, he has himself come to Nanking. Before leaving Sianfu, General Chiang Kai-shek declared to General Chang Hsueh-liang and his colleagues:

"As you have shown regard for the welfare of the nation and have decided to send me back to Nanking, and as you no longer try to make any special demands or to force me to give any orders, it marks a turning-point in the life of the nation. . . . It is an ancient Chinese saying that gentlemen should correct mistakes as soon as they are realised, and, as you both admit wrongdoing, you are entitled to remain my subordinates." General Chang wrote to General Chiang Kai-shek, saying: "I am naturally rustic, surly, and unpolished. Because of this I have committed this impudent and criminal act. Now I have

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penitently followed you to Nanking in order to await a punishment befitting the crime. I shall accept even death if beneficial to my country. Do not let sentiment or friendship deter you from dealing with me as I deserve."

COLONEL-GENERAL H. VON SEECKT

Colonel-General H. von Seeckt, who reorganised the German Reichswehr after the war, died suddenly in Berlin at the age of seventy. He resigned in 1926 over a constitutional issue. He had allowed Prince Wilhelm of Prussia, the eldest son of the Crown Prince, to serve for a short time in privileged conditions in the 9th Infantry Regiment for a period of manoeuvres. This was felt to raise an issue whether the power of the State should rest with the Reichswehr or the Reichstag, and since Herr Gessler, the War Minister, took a firm stand, the general was obliged to resign.

Monday 28

A RECORD CHRISTMAS POST

This year the Post Office dealt with over two hundred million letters and about five and a half million parcels on 23 and 24 December.

Tuesday 29

HIGH BOMBING RANGES

The R.A.F. has now been provided with seven new ranges for bombing practice from great heights, and six others are planned. Bombing from high ranges is difficult. With a fast bomb the laying of the course and the steadying of the aeroplane must be completed some miles from the target. Practice bombs fall at the rate of 500 feet a second, and travel forward as they fall at about the same speed as the aeroplane from which they are released. From an aeroplane travelling at 200 miles an hour at a height of 25,000 feet a bomb will take fifty seconds to reach the ground and will have travelled forward about three miles. For accurate bombing the bomb-aimer and the pilot must have discovered their target at a range of at least six miles.

SPAIN

The German ship *Palos*, which was detained at Bilbao some days ago by the Spanish Government, has now been released, at the demand of the German cruiser *Königsberg*. The Spanish citizen who was on board was taken away, as well as part of the cargo.

GENERAL CHIANG KAI-SHEK

General Chiang Kai-shek, on returning to Nanking, formally tendered his resignation, but the political Council said that

he was more indispensable than ever and asked him immediately to resume his duties as Chairman of the Military Commission and President of the Executive Yuan.

A MURDERER'S ESCAPE

At Shanghai, Constable Atma Singh, an Indian, had been sentenced to death for the murder of a fellow-constable who had insulted his wife. The sentence was confirmed in spite of a petition. When the trap on the gallows was opened the rope broke, and Atma Singh fell to the floor, still alive. He was taken to hospital suffering from concussion. He has now been relieved.

LADY HOUSTON

Lady Houston, widow of Sir Robert Houston, shipowner, died at her home at Hampstead. She was a lady of great wealth, a generous and noisy supporter of patriotic and charitable objects, and a terror to all with whom she disagreed.

Thursday 31

A VERY BIG FISH

A week ago *The Times* printed the photograph of a Nile perch weighing 175 pounds that was caught on the River Niger in a fish trap. So far no fisherman has improved on this in the columns of *The Times*.

THE NEW YEAR

The end of the year was celebrated as usual by large crowds in London, especially in Piccadilly Circus, where mounted police directed the merry-makers. Last year's successful experiment of organising community singing in St. Paul's with a relay of the service to the crowd outside was not repeated. The thousands, however, assembled outside St. Paul's took part in community singing on their own, which merged into "Auld Lang Syne" at midnight.

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